

# Street Evangelist for Women's Equality

Speaking up for women wherever I am



January 18, 2016

Pastor Wade Burleson  
Emmanuel Church  
2505 W. Garriott  
Enid OK 73703

Dear Wade,

Three years after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Southern Baptist leaders Paige Patterson and Paul Pressler sat at the Café du Monde in New Orleans and planned out the conservative takeover which had one lasting result – women would remain submissive in churches even though our United States government gave us freedom.

*Here is a napkin. Will you help write the plan for the future where restrictions for women have been lifted?*

Ruth Graham said of the struggle for women's equality, "These days, though no consensus has been reached and dustups still occur, the excitement has cooled." She is right, of course. Our voices have become muted. You advocate for women. I do, too, along with many others, but our voices do not make a noise. She, like most others, has not heard us. [http://www.slate.com/articles/double\\_x/doublex/2016/01/marco\\_rubio\\_s\\_new\\_anti\\_feminist\\_adviser.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/double_x/doublex/2016/01/marco_rubio_s_new_anti_feminist_adviser.html)

Will you help map out a plan for women's voices to be heard? It is good to feed the hungry, to bring awareness to sex trafficking, to minister to the sick and hopeless. We have overlooked the damage Christians do to women by denying their calling to serve fully. Jesus placed no restrictions on who could go and tell and there is no reference in anything Jesus said or did that would indicate that men are to be elevated by headship over their wives after his resurrection. Women are the hungry, the abused, the sick and the hopeless. Churches will not link hands and come to our aid.

Will you help women be all that Christians are to be, with full responsibility and full service as deacons and pastors? There are close to 8 billion people in the world, half of them men. Surely we care enough about both men and women who need the gospel! Yet we don't. If we did, we would not restrict females whom God calls to His service.

*"The Café Du Monde in New Orleans was the site of the fundamentalist takeover of the Southern Baptist Convention. Their plan was written on a paper napkin. Paige Patterson, now president of the largest SBC affiliated seminary, and Paul Pressler were the architects of the plan, and they used their unique knowledge of the inner workings of the SBC to systematically put their people in key positions. This stacked the dominoes in a certain way, and when they started to fall, they continued in the orderly fashion set forth on a table in a café. What began in 1967 was finalized in 1990. "This eleventh election (of a fundamentalist president of the SBC) seals the fundamentalist victory, and they celebrate at Café Du Monde in the French Quarter, where Judge Pressler and Paige Patterson had first conceived the whole plan for the takeover, many years prior." - The Fundamentalist Takeover in the Southern Baptist Convention. A Brief History, by Rob James and Gary Leaser with James Shoopman*

Paige Patterson and Paul Pressler earnestly believed that reigning in knowledge and cultural changes to allow women freedom would bring about a stronger Southern Baptist Convention. They were successful, but they were wrong.

What they did would not have mattered to Christianity, except what they conceived on a paper napkin grew beyond their wildest expectations and almost all evangelical churches have embraced male headship. Now we are stuck with it. Christians get it wrong when they seek to hurt, and male headship hurts women.

Wade, here is a paper napkin. I ask for your help in devising a way to unbind women from first century culture.

Shirley Taylor