

# Reports from the Street Evangelist for Women's Equality

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**Report from the street evangelist.** What a day! Church with family this morning for a baptism. Three rows of family there in this huge Methodist church. A former family member (an elected official in the Houston area) came in and sat beside Don. He asked how I was doing and I told him that I had just written 3 books. He asked what about. I told him it was about women's equality in church. He said that he and his wife are going to a huge Baptist church and that they have been going to bible study. He then said that if he were a woman, he doesn't think he would go to church at all because of what they are saying. Oh boy! Well, you can guess. I just happened to have a copy of my book with me for such occasions. Back at the family home, he and I had a great discussion and I gave him one of my books. He said he would give it to the pastor to put in their church library. I told him that that might be a little more difficult than he thought. Because that church was one of the first to break away from BGCT where I had worked for almost 15 years and they might not want to put a book by me in their library. It was a great discussion. One woman at the table told me that women were equal - but the husband is the head of the family. The wife is the neck. I told her that after she read my book she wouldn't think so. But I did not give her a book. I started to, but decided against it.

**Report from the street evangelist.** Just had an epiphany! Why didn't I learn this before? For a good while I have been thinking about men and women regarding size. Men are taller and therefore command attention and gain authority. Women are shorter and our very lack of stature works against us in church which extends into the home. I just realized why women are shorter and it has nothing to do with male authority over us. Women are shorter because our shorter legs enables us mothers to walk alongside our babies and our children, matching our stride with their shorter legs. Of course, after they grow up, we still are shorter! This is just another way to tell you that WOMEN are also protectors of their families. Complementarians would have you believe that males are to be the protectors of their families.

**Report from the street evangelist.** Have another opportunity tomorrow to try to sell books at an arts and crafts fair. There has been almost no advertising so I don't imagine many will be there. But I will with my 3 books.

**Report from the street evangelist.** Had a table to sell books at our community center today. Gave out many CBE Houston business cards, raised the consciousness of many men and women. One woman was at my table talking when another woman walked up. The other woman said she didn't have time to read - that her daughter had just downloaded "Fifty Shades of Gray" to her Kindle. The first woman burst out laughing and told that woman that my book wasn't that kind of book, and that she had just insulted me by comparing the two books. I don't think the second woman ever understood. Gave my book to a high school girl from Houston who said that she is very much aware that women are not treated equal. Gave it to a 89 year old woman who attends a Baptist church nearby. Gave it to a woman

who attends a Cowboy Church as a wedding present. Gave it to a woman who used to work with the WMU (Women's missionary union) for the Missouri Baptist Convention and whose son is starting a new Baptist church near Alvin. Sold 6 books.

**Report from the street evangelist.** Been busy! Bought a booth at the huge garage sale at the church where I work. I now have 3 books to sell. So I chose the first table. Spread my books out ready to sell. There were lots of non-English speaking or English reading people there who told me they could not read English. Ok. But a woman from the best-known moneyed subdivision stopped by. I gave her my spiel and noted the name of the subdivision on her shirt because if someone wears that jacket, surely they want people to notice it. After my speech, she walked away and said, "I don't believe in women's rights." Now, nobody expects to have their social justice awareness raised at a garage sale, but I am a street evangelist, so that is what I do! One woman came over and said she had been telling her friends in Virginia about me. I had met her when I sold her a booth. She bought *Dethroning Male Headship* and was so excited that I gave her *Women Equal - No Buts* as a bonus. A 14 year old African American girl stopped by and said she had no money. I signed a book and gave her one. Then two women from a Lutheran church bought a book. One has the book club at her church. I sold 26 books. May God use the words of those books to open hearts. I will be at my own subdivision this coming Saturday with a booth selling books. What better gift for Christmas than a book on Women's equality?

**Report from the street evangelist.** What a day! First a young electrician came and while he was writing out his bill, I debated whether or not to give him a copy of *Women Equal - No Buts*. Decided against it since he was not married (yes, I asked!). Then an on-duty mailman stopped by to buy a booth for the huge garage sale the church is having. Still thinking about giving a book away, I wondered how I was going to ask him if he was married since he was about my age. I was saved by his comment that he had so much stuff in his house that no woman could live there. So, now I haven't given my book away to two people. Almost time to leave and with bulletins yet to run, two people came to my door to invite the pastor to a luncheon at a Funeral Home. I knew the woman since she visits regularly to drum up business and I like her. I told her I would like to give her *Women Equal - No Buts*. then I asked the man where he goes to church and he goes to BBC! I know his pastor. "Just a minute!" I ran to the car and got a book to give to him. That makes 2 books that I have sneaked into that church via a salesman at the door!

**Report from the street evangelist.** I am home from a much needed vacation. Looks like wonderful things have happened while I was away. Bob Edwards published a book! CBE Houston is going to Sarah's Ranch on October 25, and Mabel had great news about a sister in Christ in her church, and I am sure there are other things that I have missed. I am thankful to be alive as Don and I were driving through curvy, hilly roads in Arkansas during a hailstorm and could not see the road but just feet in front of us. Struck up a conversation about marriage with a waitress at a McDonald's in a small town in Oklahoma. Gave her *Women Equal-No Buts: Powered by the same Source*. Got letters to write and things to do!

**Report from the street evangelist.** Finishing up my 3rd book. "Outside the pastor's door: Reflections of a church secretary." Will be available on or before November 1.

**Report from the street evangelist.** The past few weeks I have been engaged with a male headship Baptist deacon via letters to the editor printed in our local newspaper. (my sister knows him but he doesn't know that she is my sister). I countered two weeks ago with "The spiritual leader is home in bed. Guess he'll tell her about Jesus when she gets home." Thursday he quoted 1 Timothy 3 that only males are qualified to be deacons. Then he invited me to his church. My reply was in the paper today. "In response to Mr Baptist Deacon's invitation for me to attend his church. I call myself "street evangelist for Christian women's equality.' I blog for women's equality. I have written 2 books advocating for women to speak up and claim their equality. Perhaps Mr Baptist Deacon should have checked with his pastor before inviting me to his church."

**Report from the street evangelist.** I needed a haircut so I stopped by Clip Cuts in the HEB shopping center. I get a different person each time I go. Today when I went in there was just 2 workers and me! The place was empty. So I had a good chance to talk with Kathy who cut my hair. She is Hispanic. We remarked about working and I told her where I work. I asked her if she went to church and she said "I don't not go, but I work on Sundays a lot of times." Then she said when she went she goes to her mother-in-law's church which she said was a Hispanic Christian different from most churches. She said they had a speaker who spoke on witches and said he had been under the influence of one, but had got away. When I left I went next door to HEB and coming out of the store, I thought that I needed to give her one of my books. I debated with myself all the way to the car and was not sure I even had a book in the car. I did have one book in the car. So I took it in. When I went back inside, she was gone! They said she had left right after she cut my hair. So I held up my book and told them I had wanted to give her a book that I wrote. Then I turned around to the two men who were sitting there and held up my book and showed them the title. They were in their 40-50s. One wanted to see the book. He bought it! He goes to Calvary Baptist and said he and his wife have a partnership marriage. Then the other man came over to look at the book. Said he did not have \$10 (I had only that book). I gave them both cards of Dethroning and magnets of Women Equal. They both seemed very interested. You never know what is going to happen. I was a little afraid of being thrown out for soliciting, but I wasn't soliciting. I was going to give her the book, and then I had told the man I would give him the book. But he bought it. I told a hair stylist that I would come back Tuesday with a book for Kathy! The street evangelist is papering Conroe with books of Women Equal - No Buts: Powered by the same Source.

**Report from the street evangelist.** I was nervous. I used to work there, but I had no idea of the reception I would get. Books in hand, I go to the front door. We all entered through the back door when I worked there, so right off, it seems strange. I am at the Tryon Evergreen Baptist Association office in Conroe about to give whoever will see me some of my books. Met by one of the men and I introduced myself. Real friendly. Took my book and commented that he was glad that I had spelled 'buts' right. Led me inside where I signed it. Then the two ladies sitting there greeted me and he left and I told them who I was and then I gave them each my book. One lady reached out and shook my hand when I told her the name of my other book "Dethroning Male Headship." I had only one copy of that

book but I gave it to them and they said they would share. Strangely enough, they had no idea who I am other than that I worked there, but did not know about my books. The Director of Missions was not there. Today I walked into the lions den and came out smiling.

**Report from the street evangelist.** I don't know if anybody prayed for me Monday as one who is working for equality, but it was a good week! A Baptist deacon responded to my letter of last week in the local newspaper and of course I had to respond to him! It was a good letter and it was printed today in our newspaper. The man said that the husband was to lead his wife and family to Jesus Christ. I pointed out that churches are mostly women and said that the wife gets up and gets the kids ready and goes to church, while the "spiritual leader" is still in bed. Then I ended with "Guess he will tell her about Jesus when she gets home from church." I was so impressed with myself that I decided that I needed to go to my local newspaper and introduce myself. I did just that. Gave away 5 books. They were having a meeting with other area newspapers and the receptionist pulled one out of the meeting to come talk with me. It was fun. I am pretty sure I made Mr Baptist Deacon upset, but I just can't seem to find the scriptures that tell me that my husband is my spiritual leader.

**Report from the street evangelist.** Interesting fact from my [www.bwebaptist.com](http://www.bwebaptist.com) website. Yahoo reports Featured Insight. Where do your visitors come from ? You get the most visitors from Washington, United States. What is happening in Washington State, or is it Washington, DC checking up on me?

**Report from the street evangelist.** Quiet this morning. Yesterday I mailed one of each of my books to a progressive pastor. Traveled around in my street evangelistmobile (my automobile has bumper stickers and decals Women Equal - No Buts: Powered by the same Source). Got in an argument so to speak private messaging with a woman on one of the groups I am a member of. Expecting them to kick me off. Wrote that fundamentalism stands on 3 legs: 1) women; 2) gays; 3) bible inerrancy/creationism and she didn't like the 2 leg being brought into the picture. Told her it was already in the picture as many male pastors are gay. She didn't like that either and said I was ruining the argument for women pastors with my comments. I told her that I work for women in ministry every day - mailed two books, have decals and bumper stickers on my car. I resisted the urge to ask her what she had done today. But I am going to ask you. It's quiet this morning. What are you going to do?

**Report from the street evangelist.** Shingles! Heck. Now how does a street evangelist spread the message of equality when she has shingles? Maybe "Aren't you glad that God lets both men and women get shingles?" The only problem with that is that more women get shingles than men do.

**Report from the street evangelist.** Sunday's Houston Chronicle said that Methodist churches face split over gay issues. I wrote to the bishop, district superintendent, pastors, and then to the General Secretary on Status and Role of Women, and to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry. I made this point. "Christian conservatism is a three-legged stool. 1) gays; 2) women; 3) bible inerrancy. Christian conservatism does not stand on two legs." I urged them to take action. I also urge you to take action. Whenever a conservative group takes over, they will identify with those groups that teach

against homosexuality and who also deny women equality to preach or pastor. The three tenants of conservatism: gays, women, inerrancy. They come in a package and women will be the losers.