

Approximately 45 minutes



Sermon Title: “God of Order in a Culture of Chaos”

(1 Corinthians 14:33-40, NIV)

Opening Prayer:

Father God, we come before You in Jesus’ name. Open our hearts and minds to Your Word. Give us clarity where there has been confusion. Let Your truth bring light, order, and peace. And Lord, shape us into a church that honors You in everything. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Historical Setting: Corinth & The Culture of Chaos

Brothers and Sisters, before we jump into the text, we need to understand **Corinth**.

Corinth was:

- . A wealthy port city
- . A melting pot of cultures
- . Known for **immorality and pagan worship**

One of the dominant religious influences in the region was the worship of **Artemis** (known elsewhere as **Diana**).

Artemis Worship Influence

In Artemis worship:

- . Women often held **dominant religious roles... “Sometimes, temple prostitutes”**
- . Services were **emotional, loud, chaotic**
- . There were **excited expressions and interruptions**

- Worship was not orderly....it was **frenzied and uncontrolled**

Now think about this...

👉 Many new believers in Corinth were **coming out of that background.**

They were **new converts to “The Way” (Christianity)**

But they were still bringing **old habits into this new faith, called The Way.**

So what happens?

👉 The church starts to look like the **pagan temple.**

- People talking over each other
- Emotional outbursts
- Interruptions during teaching
- Confusion in worship

And Paul says:

“This is not how God operates.”

Verse-by-Verse Teaching:

1 Corinthians 14:33-40(NIV) ³³ For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord’s people.

³⁴ Women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission, as the law says. ³⁵ If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church.

³⁶ Or did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached? ³⁷ If anyone thinks they are a prophet or otherwise gifted by the Spirit, let them acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord’s command. ³⁸ But if anyone ignores this, they will themselves be ignored.

39 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. 40 But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.

1 Corinthians 14:33 (NIV)

“For God is not a God of disorder but of peace...”

This is the foundation.

👉 God's nature is **order, peace, clarity**

So if worship is chaotic, confusing, and disruptive...

👉 That is not the Spirit of God....that is the flesh.

The Problem in the Church

By the time we reach verses 34-35, Paul addresses a specific issue.

1 Corinthians 14:34-35 (NIV)

“Women should remain silent in the churches... If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home...”

➤ Now stop right there.

👉 This has been misunderstood for generations.

This is an opportunity for a “Male chauvinist pig attitude” to take advantage of women, which men have done this for many years in history.... Remember, **Jesus** was a number one advocate for women's rights. He employed women when women had zero rights in that culture...Paul is Jesus Christ ambassador...

When Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 14:34-35 about women being silent and asking their husbands:

It is likely addressing:

- . Disorder in the church gathering
- . Possibly untrained or newly converted women asking disruptive questions
- . Cultural issues where women:
 - were often less formally educated
 - were now suddenly participating in Christian gatherings

👉 Christianity was actually liberating for women:

- . They could learn
- . They could pray and prophesy
- . **1 Corinthians 11:5 (NIV) “Every woman who prays or prophesies...”**
- . They were treated as equal in Christ
- . **Galatians 3:28(NIV) There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**

Listen....

What Paul Is “NOT” Saying:

Paul is NOT saying:

- . Women have no voice
- . Women cannot pray
- . Women cannot speak in church

Because earlier:

1 Corinthians 11:5 (NIV) “Every woman who prays or prophesies...”

👉 So clearly....women were speaking in church.

What Paul IS Addressing:

Paul is bringing order to a church still shaped by its old cultural ways.

Remember:

- . Many women came from “**Artemis worship**”
- . Some pagan religious systems included immoral practices, and cities like Corinth

were known for sexual immorality, but not all women were involved in temple prostitution.

- That system encouraged **outspoken, dominating, disruptive behavior in gatherings**

Now bring that into church...

👉 They were likely:

- Calling out questions
- Interrupting teaching
- Challenging speakers publicly
- Creating disorder in the service

👉 We see similar struggles today in America. When strong emotions and personal agendas take center stage, they can create confusion and division in the church rather than the peace and order God calls us to.

So Paul says:

- 👉 “Stop the interruptions.”
- 👉 “Let worship be orderly.”
- 👉 “Ask questions in a proper setting.”

Why “Ask Your Husbands at Home”?

This was not about shutting women down.

It was about:

- Restoring **order in public worship**
- Encouraging **learning without disruption**

Also, in that culture:

- Women were often **new to formal teaching**
- Women generally had less access to formal education than men, especially in public settings.
- The home became a place of **discipleship and growth**

So Paul is saying:

👉 “Grow. Learn. Ask questions....but don’t disrupt the gathering.”

The Real Issue: Disorder

Church, don’t miss this:

👉 The issue is not women.

👉 The issue is disorder.

And Paul applies this to **everyone** in the chapter:

- Tongues must be orderly
- Prophecy must be orderly
- Speaking must be orderly

The Principle for Today

This is where it comes home.

👉 We may not have Artemis temples with temple prostitutes today...

But we still have:

- . Emotionalism without truth
- . Loud opinions without order
- . Disruption disguised as “spiritual freedom”

And God says:

👉 “That’s not Me.”

Christian Freedom Defined

1 Corinthians 14:40 (NIV)

“But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.”

Church:

- . Freedom is not chaos
- . Passion is not disorder
- . Expression is not interruption

👉 True spirituality brings **clarity, not confusion**

The Balance:

Let's be clear and biblical:

Women in the New Testament:

- . Prayed
- . Prophesied
- . Served
- . Led in various roles

But just like men...

👉 They were called to operate in **order and humility**

Application:

Let's make this practical. Ask yourself this.

1. Guard the Atmosphere of Worship

Is what I'm doing building up or distracting?

2. Leave the Old Life Behind

Don't bring **pagan patterns into Christian worship**

3. Grow in the Right Way

Learning is good but timing and attitude matter

4. Honor God's Order

Because order allows the Word to be heard clearly

Simple Truth to Remember

 **God is not the author of confusion.**

 **He is the author of peace.**

Gospel Connection:

Brothers and Sisters, this all ties back to the Gospel.

Before Christ:

- . We lived in chaos
- . We followed the patterns of the world

But through Jesus:

- 👉 He brings order to our lives
- 👉 Peace to our hearts
- 👉 Clarity to our purpose

Invitation to Be Born Again:

Maybe today you feel like your life is chaotic, confused, or out of control.

- 👉 That is what sin does.

But Jesus offers something different.

- . Forgiveness
- . New life
- . Peace with God

John 3:3 (NIV)

“....No one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

If you have never given your life to Christ...

Right now, you can. Right this moment...

Romans 10:9(NIV)⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Let's Pray....

**"Lord Jesus, I believe You died for me.
I turn from my sin.
Come into my life.
Make me new.
Be my Lord and Savior." In Jesus
Name... Amen.**

"If" you prayed this, or something like this, sincerely by heart faith in Jesus Christ, you are no longer lost. **You are saved.**

So do not keep this a secrete... go tell someone.

Good News, Jesus is coming very soon!!!

Closing Prayer:

**Father God, thank You for Your Word.
Thank You that You are a God of peace,
not confusion.**

**Help us to walk in order, humility, and
truth.**

Shape our lives to reflect Your heart.

**And Lord, continue to transform us by
Your Spirit.**

In Jesus' name, Amen.



Matthew 28:19-20