



WEEK FOURTEEN | CULTURAL OR BINDING?

Interpreting scripture can be one of the hardest things to do. We would like to think things are simply black and white. Sure, some things are like Jesus is God's one and only Son. Murder is a sin and a crime. Those are true for all of time. What about the many other things in the Bible that aren't clear? What about the things that are blurry or questionable? Yes, those things exist in the Bible. One thing is clear which is that humans see things differently. We can look at the same evidence and still come to different conclusions.

What is your experience or background concerning how to interpret the Bible, especially the difficult issues?

What is your response when you hear someone say, "The Bible says it in black and white." (It means what it means.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Remember that the context here is dealing with the relationship between husbands and wives in public worship attitudes and practices.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:2-16.

How have you seen the influence of tradition (picking and choosing) determine what is binding and what is cultural? (any examples?)

What is the difference between Christ-centered authority and our worldly concepts of authority?

What does mutual submission look like in a relationship?

How can a man lead his family and still be submissive to his wife?

APPLY IT

Russ said, *"We have to read and interpret scripture to the best of our ability and show grace and deference to those that see it differently than we do."*

How do you feel about that statement?

What should we do when we disagree on something the bible says?

P R A Y

Make this time an indispensable part of your group. It can be at the beginning, end, or wherever but don't overlook it. We have plenty to pray about.

- Pray together before you go home.
- Take requests, email them to the group, ask them to pray this week.