

## DETAILS



### ***Discovering Biblical Equality*** *Biblical, Theological, Cultural, and Practical Perspectives*

November 2, 2021 | \$45, 712 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-5479-0

“The earlier editions of *Discovering Biblical Equality* were foundational for my understanding of men and women in the Bible. This third edition retains the best of what came before and adds lots of fresh materials to strengthen the case for biblical equality and mutuality. This continues to be the best all-in-one resource for understanding a Christian theology of women in ministry, family, and society.”

**Nijay K. Gupta**, professor of New Testament at Northern Seminary

## Revised and Updated Edition of a Groundbreaking Gender-Equality Text

“There is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus” (Gal 3:28 NRSV).

The conversation about the relationship between women and men and their roles in the Christian life and the church has evolved, but the topic continues to inspire debate and disagreement.

The third edition of this groundbreaking work brings together scholars firmly committed to the authority of Scripture to explore historical, biblical, theological, cultural, and practical aspects of this discussion. This fresh, positive defense of gender equality is at once scholarly and practical, irenic yet spirited, up-to-date, and cognizant of opposing positions. In this edition readers will find both revised and new essays on biblical equality in relation to several issues, including the image of God, the analogy of slavery, same-sex marriage, abortion, domestic abuse, race, and human flourishing.

Discover for yourself God’s vision for gender equality.

New essays include

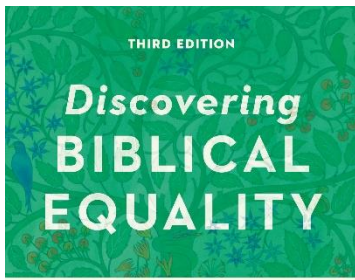
- Mutuality in Marriage and Singleness: 1 Corinthians 7:1-40 (Ronald W. Pierce and Elizabeth A. Kay)
- The Trinity Argument for Women’s Subordination: The Story of Its Rise, Ascendancy, and Fall (Kevin Giles)
- Biblical Images of God as Mother and Spiritual Formation (Ronald W. Pierce and Erin M. Heim)
- Interpretive Methods and the Gender Debate (Cynthia Long Westfall)
- A Defense of Gender-Accurate Bible Translation (Jeffrey D. Miller)



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The conversation about gender roles in Christian life and the church has evolved, but the topic continues to inspire debate and disagreement. Now in its third edition, this fresh, positive defense of gender equality brings together scholars firmly committed to the authority of Scripture to explore historical, biblical, theological, cultural, and practical aspects of this discussion.

## **New and Revised Essays on Biblical Equality**

**Jack O. Balswick** received his MA and PhD from the University of Iowa. He is senior professor of sociology and family development at Fuller Theological Seminary. His publications include *The Reciprocating Self: Human Development in Theological Perspective* and *Men at the Crossroads*. In addition, he has coauthored with his wife, Judy, *The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home*; *Authentic Human Sexuality: An Integrated Christian Approach*; *Family Pain: Getting Through the Hurts of Family Life*; *The Dual-Earner Marriage: The Elaborate Balancing Act*; and *A Model for Marriage: Covenant, Grace, Empowerment, Intimacy*.

**Judith K. Balswick** received her MA from the University of Iowa and EdD from the University of Georgia in counseling and human development. She is senior professor in the School of Psychology & Marriage and Family Therapy at Fuller Theological Seminary, and has been a licensed therapist and supervisor for over thirty years. Her publications include *Relationship-Empowering Parenting*, as well as the coauthored books *Life Ties* and *Then They Leave Home*, along with numerous coedited publications with her husband, Jack (see above). Judy and Jack are members of Pasadena Covenant Church. They have two married children and six grandchildren.

**Linda L. Belleville** received her MA from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and PhD from St. Michael's College, University of Toronto. She previously taught at Calvin College, North Park Theological Seminary, and Bethel University. She is an adjunct professor of New Testament at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary. Her publications include *2 Corinthians* (IVP New Testament Commentaries); *1 Timothy* (Cornerstone); *Philippians* (Cascade); *Women Leaders and the Church* (Baker); *Two Views on Women in Ministry* (Zondervan); and numerous articles and essays on the issue of biblical teaching about women's roles in the church, society, and the family.

**Lynn H. Cohick** received her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and is provost and dean of academic affairs at Northern Seminary. Lynn was professor of New Testament at Wheaton College and also taught for three years at Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology in Nairobi. Her publications include *The Letter to the Ephesians*; *Christian Women in the Patristic World: Their Influence, Authority, and Legacy in the Second Through the Fifth Centuries* (coauthored with Amy Brown Hughes); *Philippians in the Story of God Commentary*; *Ephesians in the New Covenant Commentary*; and *Women in the World of the Earliest Christians*.

**Mary L. Conway** received her MTS. from McMaster University and PhD from McMaster Divinity College, where she is now an associate professor of Old Testament. Her published articles include "Daughter Zion: Metaphor and Dialogue in the Book of Lamentations," in *Daughter Zion: Her Portrait, Her Response*. She has recently published *Judging the Judges: A Narrative Appraisal Analysis*, which involves an adaptation of appraisal theory to Hebrew narrative in order to evaluate characters and determine authorial stance, and she has also coauthored a new discourse-based commentary on *Judges* (Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament). Mary enjoys teaching adult classes in her local church.

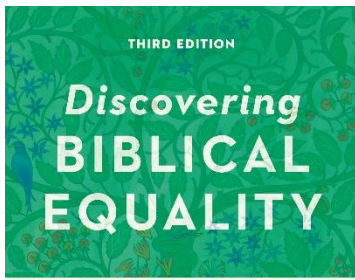
**Peter H. Davids** received his MDiv from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and PhD from the University of Manchester. He has taught at seminaries and universities in the United States, Canada, and a number of European countries. Starting as a Plymouth Brethren, he was an Episcopal priest for thirty-four years but served Christian and Missionary Alliance, Vineyard, Baptist, Brethren, and nondenominational institutions. He was ordained a Catholic priest in 2014 and is currently chaplain to the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist in Georgetown, Texas. His publications include *A Commentary on the*



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*Epistle of James; The First Epistle of Peter*; half of the New Testament part of *Hard Sayings of the Bible*; and *A Theology of James, Peter, and Jude*. He is married to Judith L. Davids, who is a spiritual director and counselor.

**Gordon D. Fee** received his MA from Seattle Pacific University and PhD from the University of Southern California. He is professor emeritus of New Testament studies at Regent College as well as an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God. His publications include *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*; *How to Read the Bible Book by Book*; *New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook*; *God's Empowering Presence: The Holy Spirit in the Letters of Paul*; *Listening to the Spirit in the Text*; *Jesus the Lord According to Paul the Apostle*; and commentaries on *1 Corinthians*; *1 & 2 Thessalonians*; *Philippians*; *1 & 2 Timothy*; *Titus*; and *Revelation*. He and his late wife, Maudine, have four married children.

**Kevin Giles** received his BD from Moore Theological College, Sydney, Australia, his MA from Durham University, UK, and his ThD from the Australian College of Theology. He served as an Anglican parish minister for more than forty years. His publications include *Women and Their Ministry*; *Created Woman*; *What the Bible Actually Teaches About Women*; *The Headship of Men and the Abuse of Women: Are They Related in Any Way?*; *The Trinity and Subordinationism: The Doctrine of God and the Contemporary Gender Debate*; *Jesus and the Father: Modern Evangelicals Reinvent the Doctrine of the Trinity*; *The Eternal Generation of the Son: Maintaining Orthodoxy in Trinitarian Theology*; *The Rise and Fall of the Complementarian Doctrine of the Trinity*; and over forty journal articles as well as several chapters in collections of essays and a number of articles in theological dictionaries. Kevin and his wife, Lynley, a marriage educator and counselor, have four children and eleven grandchildren. They live in Melbourne, Australia.

**Juliany González Nieves** received her MDiv from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and a BSc in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras. Her main area of interest is Caribbean and Latin American theologies at the intersection of race, ethnicity, and gender across geographical and linguistic lines. She has collaborated with projects and initiatives from institutions such as the University of St Andrews, Scotland, and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, such as Logia, the Suena Initiative, Mosaic Ministries, and the Paul G. Hiebert Center for World Christianity and Global Theology. She currently works at Trinity International University, Florida.

**Stanley J. Grenz** received his MDiv from Denver Seminary and DTheol from the University of Munich, Germany. He was Pioneer McDonald Professor of Theology at Carey Theological College, Vancouver, and an ordained minister with the Baptist Union of Western Canada. His publications include *The Social God and the Relational Self: A Trinitarian Theology of the Imago Dei*; *Renewing the Center: Evangelical Theology in a Post-theological Era*; *Theology for the Community of God*; *What Christians Really Believe . . . and Why*; *The Moral Quest: Foundations for Christian Ethics*; *A Primer on Postmodernism*; and, coauthored with Denise Muir Kjesbo, *Women and the Church: A Biblical Theology of Women in Ministry*.

**Rebecca Merrill Groothuis** was a freelance writer, poet, editor, and a member of Mensa. Her publications include the award-winning *Women Caught in the Conflict: The Culture War Between Traditionalism and Feminism* and *Good News for Women: A Biblical Picture of Gender Equality*, as well as articles and reviews in *Christian Scholar's Review*, *Christianity Today*, *ReGeneration Quarterly*, *Perspectives*, *Priscilla Papers*, *Christian Counseling Today*, *Christian Ethics Today*, *Eternity*, and the *Denver Post*.

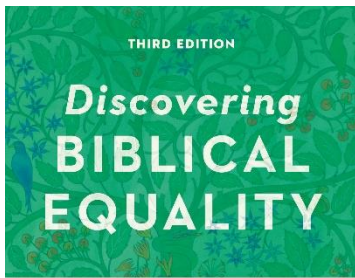
**Mimi Haddad** earned a MATS from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary (summa cum laude) and a PhD from the University of Durham, England. Serving as president of CBE International, she teaches at Fuller Theological Seminary. A founding member of the Evangelical Theological Society's Evangelicals and Women, she has served as a gender consultant for Christian



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nongovernmental organizations. An Evangelical Press Association award winner, she has published over one hundred articles in journals such as *Ashland Theological Journal*, *The Campbellsville Review*, *Catalyst*, *Christian Ethics Today*, and *Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief*. She is a contributor to sixteen books, recently *Created to Thrive* (CBE International, 2021), *Is Women's Equality a Biblical Ideal?* (CBE International, 2021), and *Women in Pentecostal and Charismatic Ministry* (Brill, 2016). Mimi lives in Saint Paul with her husband, Dale.

**M. Elizabeth Lewis Hall** received her MA and PhD degrees in clinical psychology from Rosemead School of Psychology, Biola University. She is professor of psychology at Biola as well as maintaining a small clinical practice. She has published over one hundred articles and book chapters concerning issues at the intersection of psychology and Christianity on topics such as gender, embodiment, and meaning making in suffering, and she has received numerous awards for her scholarship. She is a fellow of the American Psychological Association and associate editor of *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*. She is married to Todd and has two young-adult sons: Brennan and Aiden.

**Erin M. Heim** earned a BMus from the University of Minnesota, an MA in New Testament from Denver Seminary, and a PhD from the University of Otago. In 2019 she received the Manfred T. Lautenschlager prize for her published doctoral thesis, *Adoption in Galatians and Romans* (Brill, 2017). She has authored numerous articles and essays on Pauline theology, theological interpretation of Scripture, and metaphor in the Bible. Erin is also a cohost of the popular biblical studies and theology podcast *OnScript*.

**Elizabeth A. Kay** received her MA in biblical exposition from Talbot School of Theology at Biola University in 2017. She served for several years as research and teaching assistant for several undergraduate Bible and theology courses, including Theology of Gender, and is currently the course materials manager at the Biola Store.

**Craig S. Keener** received his MA and MDiv from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary and PhD from Duke University. He is F. M. and Ada Thompson Professor of Biblical Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary and has authored thirty-two books, with more than a million copies in circulation; six have won awards in *Christianity Today*. These include works on Bible background, the work of the Spirit, women in ministry, and many commentaries, most notably a four-volume commentary on Acts. He has also served as president of the Evangelical Theological Society (2020). Craig is married to Dr. Medine Moussounga Keener, who survived war in Congo (a story recounted in their book *Impossible Love*).

**Walter L. Liefeld** received his PhD from Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary. He is distinguished professor emeritus of New Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois. He has held several pastorates and interim pastorates, most recently serving as senior pastor of Christ Church in Lake Forest, Illinois. Among his several books are *New Testament Exposition*; *Interpreting the Book of Acts*; and (cowritten with Ruth Tucker) *Daughters of the Church*. He and his wife, Olive, have three grown children and seven grandchildren.

**Kylie Maddox Pidgeon** received her bachelor of social science in psychology (honors) from Charles Sturt University in Australia and works in private practice as a registered psychologist and associate member of the Australian Psychological Association. She is an adjunct lecturer at St. Mark's National Theological Centre in Canberra and has recently coauthored a chapter on play therapy in *Psychotherapy and Counselling: Reflection on Practice*. Kylie has special interest in the integration of theology and psychology, especially as it regards domestic violence in Christian communities.

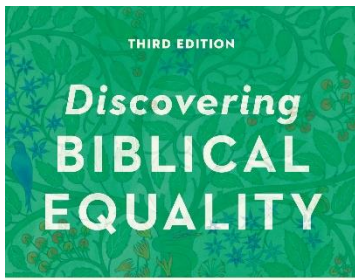


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**Alice P. Mathews** received an MA in clinical psychology from Michigan State University and PhD in a cross-disciplinary program in religion and social change from the Iliff School of Theology and the University of Denver. She is now retired after thirty years in theological education, having held the Distinguished Chair in Women's Ministries and Educational Ministries, as well as serving as academic dean, at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. In addition, for twenty-three years she was a regular participant in the daily radio program *Discover the Word* (RBC Ministries). She is also the author of nine books, including *Preaching That Speaks to Women; Marriage Made in Eden; Gender Roles and the People of God; and Woman of Strength*. Prior to her academic career, Alice and her husband, Randall, spent seventeen years as missionaries in Europe. They are the parents of four adult children, six grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

**Christa L. McKirland** is a lecturer in systematic theology at Carey Baptist College. She holds a BA in philosophy and women's studies from the University of Georgia; an MA in Bible exposition and a ThM in systematic theology, both from Talbot School of Theology, Biola University; and a PhD in exegetical and analytic theology from the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. She enjoys bringing this rich diversity of disciplines together to speak into what it means to flourish. Christa is also founder and executive director of Logia International, an organization that encourages women to pursue postgraduate divinity education for the sake of the academy and the church. Logia seeks to highlight the excellence of women who are already established in their fields, while also developing the next generation of women scholars who will lead the way in theology, philosophy of religion, and biblical studies.

**Jeffrey D. Miller** holds bachelor's degrees in pastoral ministry and church music, an MDiv, and a PhD in biblical interpretation. He teaches biblical studies at Milligan University, in view of the Blue Ridge Mountains of eastern Tennessee. He is editor of *Priscilla Papers*, the academic journal of CBE International. He has published academic articles in *The Bible Translator*, *Priscilla Papers*, *Restoration Quarterly*, and *Stone-Campbell Journal*, as well as popular pieces in publications such as *Christian Standard*, *Didaktikos*, *Leaven*, and *Mutuality*. He and his wife, Dana, serve in a variety of ministry roles, mainly through their local congregation. They have two married daughters and five delightful grandchildren.

**Ronald W. Pierce** received his MDiv and ThM from Talbot School of Theology and a PhD from Fuller Theological Seminary. He is professor of Old Testament in the Talbot School of Theology at Biola University, as well as an ordained minister with Converge International and a spiritual director with SoulFormation. A founding member of Evangelicals and Women—a section of the Evangelical Theological Society—his publications include numerous academic articles. He served as coauthor and contributor to earlier editions of this volume and wrote *Partners in Marriage and Ministry* and a commentary on the book of Daniel. Ron and his wife, Pat, reside in Fullerton, California, and have two married children and four grandchildren.

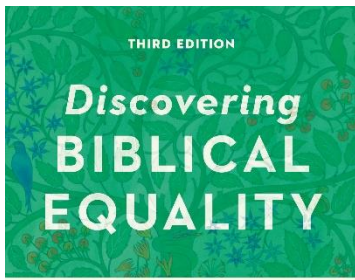
**Stanley E. Porter** received his BA from Point Loma College, an MA from Claremont Graduate School, an MA from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and his PhD from the University of Sheffield. He is president, dean, and professor of New Testament, and holder of the Roy A. Hope Chair in Christian Worldview, at McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, Ontario. Porter has written on many if not most areas of New Testament Studies. The author of over thirty books and editor of over ninety, he has recently published *When Paul Met Jesus: How an Idea Got Lost in History; Sacred Tradition in the New Testament; The Apostle Paul: His Life, Thought, and Letters; The Letter to the Romans: A Linguistic and Literary Commentary*, and (with Jason Robinson) *Active Hermeneutics: Seeking Understanding in an Age of Objectivism*.



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**Ronald J. Sider** received his PhD from Yale University and is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Theology, Holistic Ministry, and Public Policy at Palmer Theological Seminary at Eastern University and president emeritus of Evangelicals for Social Action. He has published more than forty-five books. His *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger* (6th ed., 2015) was recognized by *Christianity Today* as one of the one hundred most influential religious books of the twentieth century and named the seventh-most influential book in the evangelical world in the last fifty years. His more recent books include *Just Politics: A Guide for Christian Engagement*; *The Early Church on Killing: A Comprehensive Sourcebook on War, Abortion, and Capital Punishment*; *Nonviolent Action: What Christian Ethics Demands, but Most Christians Have Never Really Tried*; and *If Jesus Is Lord: Loving Our Enemies in an Age of Violence*. He is married to Arbutus Lichti Sider and has three children and seven grandchildren.

**Aída Besançon Spencer** received her MDiv and ThM from Princeton Theological Seminary and PhD from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is senior professor of New Testament at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and an ordained Presbyterian minister. She also serves as founding pastor of organization with Pilgrim Church, Beverly, Massachusetts. Her publications include *Beyond the Curse: Women Called to Ministry*; *Paul's Literary Style*; and commentaries on *2 Corinthians*; *1 Timothy*; and *2 Timothy and Titus*. With her husband, William David Spencer, she has also written and coedited *The Global God*; *Joy Through the Night*; *The Goddess Revival*; and *Christian Egalitarian Leadership*. Aida and William have one grown son, Stephen.

**Heidi R. Unruh** received an MA in theology and public policy from Palmer Seminary. She is a ministry consultant and coach, equipping churches and nonprofits to move faithfully and effectively from principles to action. Her focus is faith-based engagement with poverty, vulnerable families, and asset-based community development. Her writings include coauthoring *Churches That Make a Difference*; *Hope for Children in Poverty*; *Saving Souls*; *Serving Society*; *The Salt & Light Guidebook*; and *Real Connections*, along with numerous practical tools and training resources. She also coaches authors through Shine Writing Services. Heidi and her husband, Jim, a pastor, are raising their family in Hutchinson, Kansas.

**Cynthia Long Westfall** received an MA from Northern Arizona University, an MDiv from Denver Seminary, and a PhD from the University of Surrey Roehampton. She is associate professor of New Testament at McMaster Divinity College. Her areas of focus include Paul and gender, Bible translation, linguistics and discourse analysis, the book of Hebrews, the General Epistles, Revelation, and issues concerning biblical social justice including poverty, power, gender, and biblical interpretation by marginalized people groups. Her recent publications include *Paul and Gender* and *A Discourse Analysis of Hebrews*. She was also the associate Greek editor and a translator for the Common English Bible.



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