

## Role of Women and the Preaching Ministry

A Position Statement Adopted by the Board of Trustees of Mid-Atlantic Christian University

May 10, 2019

Mid-Atlantic Christian University endeavors to remain faithful to the principles and practices prescribed and demonstrated in the New Testament. Scripture clearly teaches that men and women stand in full equality of standing before God, but well-meaning Christians differ on the roles of men and women. MACU understands the Scriptures to teach a complementarian view of women, rather than an egalitarian view. The egalitarian position holds that the NT (e.g., Gal 3:28) erases all distinctions of roles between men and women. The complementarian position understands Scripture to teach that two roles are limited to men: the main preacher/teacher and an elder of a congregation (1 Tim 2:12–3:7). Numerous examples of women serving faithfully in evangelistic settings and teaching of other women and young people abound in Scripture. However, MACU believes it is clear that the task of regular, weekly preaching is reserved for men. The University believes these principles to be applicable to all generations, regardless of current philosophies.

At the same time, MACU is convinced that, in order to fulfill vital and appropriate roles within church and parachurch service to Christ, both men and women need to be equipped to prepare and present biblical messages, a field called homiletics. Homiletics is the study of skills, and is not an assignment of role. Therefore, the University considers that men and women may study together to learn these skills, thus preparing and enabling them for their appropriate areas of ministry.