1. **1 Corinthians 14:33b - 36**

* What is Paul asking of the “women” in this community?
* Where does the “law” imply what Paul is requesting?
* **Genesis 3:16**
* Do you believe the reading in **Genesis** could be what Paul is talking about? Why?
* **1 Timothy 2:9-15, 1 Timothy 3:11, Titus 2:3-5**
* Name two things you see in both **Timothy** and **Titus** that Paul asks “women” not to do?
* Name two things Paul is asking “women” to do?
* Paul only makes this type of stern request in a few letters, what might be different about the “women” in Corinth considering he does not address the “women” this way in several other communities?
* **1 Corinthians 11:5**
* Can “women” prophesy without speaking?
* Do you think Paul’s request for “women” to be silent is absolute in all situations and all places considering what we have seen so far? Please explain what you think Paul is really saying and addressing here in Corinth during this time period.
* Where does Paul recommend the “women” of Corinth question their “husbands”?
* Why do you believe he makes this statement?
* **St. John Chrysostom (347 – 407 AD)** *Homily 37* *on 1st Corinthians 14:34* section 1.1-1.4

“Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but let them be in subjection, as also says the law.

Having abated the **disturbance both from the tongues** and from the prophesyings; and having made a law to **prevent confusion**, that they who speak with tongues should do this in turn, and that they who prophesy should **be silent when another begins**; he next in course proceeds to the **disorder** which **arose from the women**, cutting off their unseasonable **boldness of speech**: and that very opportunely. For if to them that have the gifts it is not permitted to **speak inconsiderately**, nor when they will, and this, though they be moved by the Spirit; **much less to those women who prate idly and to no purpose**. Therefore, he **represses their babbling** with much authority, and taking the law along with him, thus he sews up their mouths; not simply exhorting here or giving counsel, but even laying his commands on them vehemently, by the recitation of an ancient law on that subject.”

* Look up and define the word “prate” and share its meaning to the group.
* Why did **St. Chrysostom** believe Paul made this statement, in your opinion from this excerpt of his writings?
* Does his statement seem to agree to what you thought might have been occurring in Corinth at that time?
* Do you think in some Catholic communities today there are still people who prate, babble and speak inconsiderately during mass when we should be listening and learning (men and women alike)?
* Do you believe this type of behavior has a negative effect on the community, please explain?
* **1 Corinthians 14:37-40**
* How serious is this message Paul is writing?
* Who is this “commandment” coming from according to Paul?
* What is the consequence of the one who “does not acknowledge” his words? Explain what you think this means.
* What are we to “strive eagerly” for according to Paul?
* If you had to explain this passage from 1st Corinthians to a new Christian, share how you would explain Paul’s message to them with the group.
* Share something that interested you or stood out to you in this lesson today with the group.