

## Week 25 Discussion Questions

**Text:** 1 Cor 14:26-40

**Icebreaker:** What's your favorite icebreaker question?

1. Read this week's passage. What stands out to you from the text or from the sermon you heard Sunday?

2. Verses 26-33 contain the purpose behind Paul's instruction for the church's worship "when you come together." How would you summarize that purpose?

*Application:* What kind of problems could we expect if everyone decided to exercise their gifts without regard for order or structure?

3. *Application:* Paul offers specific instruction for how order can be attained, including the call for some to remain silent (verses 28 and 30) in certain situations. How can we balance the call to exercise our gifts with the need to sometimes refrain from using them?

Have you ever been in a situation where you needed to refrain from using a gift? If so, explain what the situation was.

4. Verses 33-35 demonstrate the importance of context. Which of the following true statements do you think is relevant for how we ought to understand these verses? Why?

- a. Women in the first century were often restricted from formal education.
- b. Socially in the first century, it was often perceived as inappropriate or even scandalous for a woman to interact openly with men.
- c. 1 Corinthians 11:5 includes instructions for what women ought to do in order to pray or prophesy in the church.

5. *Application:* "All things should be done decently and in order." When you think about Calvary's worship services, how well do you think we are exercising our gifts in an orderly fashion? Are there ways where you think things could be more orderly than they are? Explain what you think.