

THE COST OF OBEDIENCE

Here, my brother, come take my hand
As we travel together through a pilgrim's land
To discover our talents, our faith, our fears
And realize our calling through laughter and tears.

Do you have any concept of what it is like
To heed the call and encounter the might
Of masculine pride so quick to oppose?
(So that doubt only festers and inevitably grows.)

Why are you threatened by the fact of my gender?
(when I, like you, must always remember
that I am a slave of the Most Sovereign Lord
And always must act by command of the Word.)

We both partake of the same salvation
that molds us together into one Holy Nation.
Yet the pain of your hatred, (for that's what it seems,)
only tears us asunder and hinders our dreams.

Consider with me that you might be wrong
In your opinion of where I belong
And that when the day of reckoning comes
It is I who'll be counted with the faithful ones.

For I am not out to prove my mettle
And I've no score that I need to settle.
All I can do is humbly obey
And strive to be worthy on that Final Day.

But the cost is so heavy that sometimes I falter,
when it lies in your power to radically alter
the way that you see me and relate to me too,
So the burden is lifted and we both battle through.

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Some Fundamental Rights of Women

A woman has a right to hear the Gospel proclaimed in such a way that she feels included in God's love and plan of redemption.

A woman has a right to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to be sealed and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

A woman has a right to use all of her gifts and talents in the service of Christ.

A woman has a right to study the Word of God as seriously and as intensively as she may aspire under God's Providence.

A woman has a right to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and the dictates of her own conscience.

A woman has a right to speak out the convictions and insights which the Lord gives her.

A woman has a right to obey the call of God in her life without hindrance from God's people.

A woman has a right to be affirmed in the God-given tasks which are set before her: whether homemaking and mothering, serving in the church and community, or bearing the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

A woman has a right to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ wherever she is led by God's will.

A woman has a right to see the fruits of her ministry as God prospers her work.

A woman has a right to educate her mind, train her body, develop her talents, and cultivate her spiritual gifts.

A woman has a right to be safe from violence in her own home.

A woman has a right to a childhood and adolescence free from sexual exploitation and abuse.

A woman has a right to pursue her chosen calling without sexual harassment.

A woman has a right to enjoy the respect of family and Christian community as she seeks to live out the Lord's will in every aspect of her life.