

Questions About Whether God will Open Ministry Doors Because Church Will Not

By Pastor Ed Anderson

I'm a young person watching you Pastor Anderson. Thank you for the hope and courage that you're giving me. I'm a female college student and feel called to enter pastoral ministry. Do you think God will open the doors for me or should I just consider something else since I can't work in the church?

Answer:

Thank you so much for your heartfelt message. I'm honored that you're watching and that you took the time to reach out. Your courage, your faith, and your willingness to consider God's calling are beautiful signs that **He is already working in your life in powerful ways.**

Let me respond clearly, biblically, and pastorally to your question — and speak directly to your heart.

Yes — God Does Call Women into Ministry

Throughout Scripture, God has **consistently called both men and women** to speak, to lead, to teach, and to serve. Here are just a few examples:

- **Deborah** – A prophet and judge over Israel (Judges 4–5), she led the nation spiritually *and* militarily.
- **Huldah** – A prophet who authenticated the rediscovered book of the law (2 Kings 22:14–20).
- **Mary Magdalene** – The first to witness the resurrection and to be sent by Jesus to “*go and tell*” the disciples (John 20:17–18).
- **Phoebe** – A deaconess commended by Paul and a trusted carrier of his letter to the Romans (Romans 16:1–2).
- **Junia** – A woman Paul referred to as “outstanding among the apostles” (Romans 16:7).

These are not accidental. God doesn't make side comments — He makes callings.

You Are Not a Mistake. Your Calling Is Not a Mistake.

If God is planting in you a **burden to preach, to shepherd, to disciple**, and to serve in His name — *who are we to say He didn't mean it?*

"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance."

— Romans 11:29

God does not give spiritual gifts by gender. He gives them by **purpose**, and He places **His Spirit where He wills**.

Will the Church Open Doors?

Yes — and no.

In some places, your calling may be met with resistance. But that does not mean your calling isn't real or that your gifts aren't needed. Many women have served faithfully even when denied titles, recognition, or ordination.

But there are also **growing spaces of acceptance**, especially in **education, youth ministry, chaplaincy, cross-cultural missions, digital evangelism, counseling, teaching**, and more. **God will make a way**. The church is not a building or a policy — it's the **body of Christ**, and **you are part of it**.

Don't Let Anyone Quench the Fire God Planted in You

"Do not neglect your gift, which was given you..."

— 1 Timothy 4:14

"Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!" — 1 Corinthians 9:16

There may be obstacles. But the Holy Spirit is bigger. Be faithful. Be trained. Be teachable. Be prayerful. And **be bold**.

A Personal Word to You

Dear Sister in Christ,

God sees you. God made you. And God is calling you for **such a time as this**. Don't bury your calling. Don't doubt His voice. You don't have to be behind a pulpit to lead. But if He opens the pulpit for you — **walk through that door with humility and power**.

You are not less. You are not limited. You are **loved, anointed, and called**.

And if no one else tells you this: **I believe in your calling. I believe in you.**

Let me know if you'd like a **study plan, mentorship resources**, or to be connected to **female church leaders** who are thriving in ministry today.

You're not alone. And **your future is filled with hope.**