

Can Women Be Elders in the Church or Not?

Many people believe that women cannot be elders. They often base it on this Scripture:

It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do (1Tim 3:1 NASB). Many other versions say something similar.

There are two problems with this translation:

1. Nowhere in the original Greek does it use the word "man." In fact, according to Philip B. Payne, author of *Man and Woman, One in Christ: An Exegetical and Theological Study of Paul's Letters*