

Women in Ministry

CRC CHURCHES INTERNATIONAL

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WOMEN IN MINISTRY

CRC Churches International Guidelines

Created for use within CRC Churches International Australia and to form a guideline for other nations

- 1. The Bible very clearly teaches that women are on an equal footing with men when it comes to operating and functioning in any ministry role within the body of Christ.
- 2. The Bible does not expressly forbid women from being involved in any particular area of ministry.
- 3. As ministry involves giving spiritual leadership and exercising authority in matters of church life, we see no restriction on women functioning in any governmental role within local churches.
- 4. The principles of submission and being accountable apply for all who are in ministry, regardless of age, and whether they are female or male. Every church and every minister needs to be accountable to his fellow ministers and to the Executives that are elected in each State and in the Commonwealth and overseas for the protection of those ministers and churches and of the entire movement.
- 5. Therefore, we see that there are no grounds on which women should be excluded from exercising any ministry role within CRC Churches International or from fulfilling any office, whether in the local church, in the State, in the Commonwealth, or overseas.
- 6. This issue was addressed and resolved by the CRC over 20 years ago when it commenced credentialing women. Today we have women operating in every area of ministry, including oversight, as assistant ministers, with full minister's credentials, as Senior Ministers of local churches and even on our Executives. Any restrictive non scriptural code that is prejudiced against women being in ministry and leadership would be a backward step and not in the interests of CRC Churches International.
- 7. Women comprise about 50% of the membership of our movement, and should be encouraged to rise up and fulfil the call that God has placed on their lives. For many women, this call is to serve God in a full-time capacity.