



Catholic Central Activity Guide

Episode 49: Feminism

Diving Deeper

- ▶ How does the basic premise of feminism -- supporting equal social, political, and economic rights and opportunities for women and men -- align with Catholic Church teaching? From this premise, can someone be both a Catholic and a feminist?
- ▶ Throughout the world, women are disproportionately affected by poverty, violence, lack of education, sexual harassment and assault. How would these obstacles affect the ability for "feminine genius" -- the unique gifts of women, as defined by St. Pope John Paul II -- to flourish in the world?
- ▶ Who are some examples of female saints and doctors of the Church? How did they use their feminine genius in the world? Can you name positions of influence or leadership in the Catholic Church today that are held by women?
- ▶ What social, political, or economic issue affecting women most concerns you?

Go Forth

- ▶ Think about your home, your work, your school, your parish, and your community. As you think about each place, pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal ways that women may experience inequality -- perhaps in the form of less opportunity, less recognition, less pay, less freedom, more responsibility, marginalization, or stereotyping -- compared to men in the same space. How are women spoken about by men in each of these places? In what ways can you make space for the gifts of feminine genius to be used more effectively and freely in these places?
- ▶ In St. Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women, he lists concrete areas in which we need to work toward more equality for women: "equal pay for equal work, protection for working mothers, fairness in career advancements, equality of spouses with regard to family rights and the recognition of everything that is part of the rights and duties of citizens in a democratic State." What are some ways that you can help to advocate for these equal rights and opportunities for women?



Resources

- ▶ [St. Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women](#)
- ▶ [FemCatholic: 12 Myths About Women Busted By The Pope Himself](#)
- ▶ [Fountains of Carrots Podcast: Bringing Catholic Feminism to a Dehumanizing Economy with Samantha Povlock](#)
- ▶ [Among Women Podcast: Working Women, Leadership, and the Devotional Life](#)

