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Mixed Ministry

Working Together as Brothers and Sisters in an Oversexed Society

Sue Edwards, Kelley Mathews, and Henry J. Rogers; with guest writer Eva Bleeker

Written by well-respected ministry leaders, this must-have guide answers the age-old question, How should men and women treat gender issues in ministry settings?

How do you relate to the opposite sex in a working environment? The New Testament treats Christian men and women as sacred siblings. Is that relationship a reality in your ministry? What are the appropriate bridges and fences? How can we learn to be “safe” in our dress, actions, and communication? How do sacred siblings interact in personal conversations, staff meetings, and professional development outings?

In *Mixed Ministry*, the male and female authors explore these complex and thorny issues in depth, drawing on the thoughts, wisdom, and perspectives of men like Howard Hendricks, John Ortberg, Dan Allender, Frank James, Bill Hybels, and many others. This neglected topic, when properly understood, has the potential to revolutionize ministry. When men and women catch this vision, the church will radically change, ministering more effectively to the *whole* body of Christ.

Chapter headings include:

- Not Segregation but Transformation
- Creating a Family Ethos for Brothers and Sisters
- Brothers and Sisters: The Same, Only Different
- The Elephant in the Family Room
- Wise Boundaries and Fences
- Modesty: Exalting the New Taboo
- Pornography
- Safeguards for Spouses

Rights: WW

Features & Benefits:

- A helpful and realistic tool for integrated ministry
- Encourages healthy male/female dynamics in any relationship

- Written by well-known and respected ministry leaders

Author Bios:

Sue Edwards (M.A., Dallas Theological Seminary; D.Min., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary) teaches full-time in the Christian Education Department at Dallas Theological Seminary. She has more than twenty-five years of experience teaching, pastoring, and directing women's ministries. In addition, Sue speaks at retreats, conferences, and seminars across the country. She is the coauthor of *Women's Retreats* and *New Doors in Ministry to Women*, and the author of the new Sue Edwards Inductive Bible Study series.

Edwards, Mathews, & Rogers/*Mixed Ministry/3*

Kelley Mathews (Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary) is a freelance writer and editor. A former women's ministry leader, she is the coauthor of *Women's Retreats* and *New Doors in Ministry to Women*. She lives with her husband, John, and their three children in Texas.

Henry J. Rogers is the corporate chaplain for Interstate Batteries in Dallas, Texas. He serves on the President's Council for Dallas Theological Seminary and on the boards for World Impact–Dallas, Children's Hope Chest, and as chairman of the board for Probe Ministries. He is the author of *The Silent War: Ministering to Those Trapped in the Deception of Pornography* and coauthor with Heather Jamison of the teen books *Keeping It Real* and *Real Stuff*.

Marketing: National advertising, National print and broadcast publicity

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Category: RELIGION / Christian Ministry / General

“*Mixed Ministry* is nutrition for the mind. While directed specifically at church staff relationships, Sue, Kelley, and Henry describe healthful thinking patterns for Christian men and women wherever they work together. Christian men everywhere need this volume to offset the distortions unconsciously absorbed from our sexually focused society. Like a nightingale singing on a garbage dump, this book lifts up a sweet melody to carry your Christian thoughts higher. When they make me king, I will require this for every man to read.”

- **Dr. Michael S. Lawson**
Senior Professor and Chairman, Christian Education Department,
Dallas Theological Seminary

“*Mixed Ministry* is an important book for anyone in church leadership to read. It offers practical guidance, surprisingly refreshing examples, and great discussion topics for people who are serious about serving the Lord long-term.”

- Dr. Sarah Sumner, Author, *Men and Women in the Church*

“This book opens the closet, revealing the tug of war between hurting women and men in ministry. . . . The authors’ perspectives are real, relevant, and reconciling.”

- **Dr. Sheila M. Bailey**
President, E. K. Bailey Ministries, Inc.
Dallas, TX

“This book is a book for the twenty-first century! As the church moves forward spreading the love of Christ, it must do so in an atmosphere of partnership and celebration. Because men and women are created in God’s image, we must find a way to work together to build His kingdom. *Mixed Ministry* shows us the way! Through personal stories, historical and biblical examples, research findings, and challenging discussion questions, the reader becomes equipped and energized to do the work God has called us to do together, as brothers and sisters in the family of God.”

- **Dr. Cynthia Fantasia**
Pastor of Women, Grace Chapel
Lexington, MA

“*Mixed Ministry* shows the true value of the unique differences of men and women working together in ministries. It also points out the pitfalls and how to avoid them. We have missed so many opportunities over the years because of wrong perceptions and stereotypes. Men and women have very different insights and strengths that are missed if we ignore or overlook them.”

- **Arch Bonnema**
Producer, The Genius Club
CEO, Joshua Financial, Plano, TX

“One of the greatest challenges many women in ministry face is . . . working on a predominately male staff, faculty, or team. Finally we have a healthy perspective with which to find and maintain our equilibrium. . . . Edwards, Mathews, and Rogers give us a perspective that addresses the cultural pressures of an ‘oversexed society’ head-on with ‘elephant in the family room’ conversation. The outcome brings promise of expanded kingdom work by men and women working alongside one another as beloved brothers and sisters, the kind of relationships exemplified by Paul and Jesus.”

- **Dr. Bev Hislop**
Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care to Women
Executive Director, Women’s Center for Ministry
Western Seminary, Portland, OR

“For too long women have been marginalized and men have been burdened with excessive responsibilities. This book exposes one of the main causes of weak, unhealthy Christian ministry: the failure to recognize the value God places on men and women

serving together in leadership as brothers and sisters. As each learns to appreciate the unique contribution of the other, the body of Christ will grow stronger and will more accurately reflect the love and unity of God to the world.”

- **Dr. Joye Baker**
Adjunct Professor, Dallas Theological Seminary

“Sue, Kelley, and Henry have surfaced a significant shortcoming that is often overlooked in most organizations. Healthy partnerships between men and women coworkers are critical to success, and this book definitely tackles the subject head-on!”

- **Norm Miller, Chairman of the Board, Interstate Battery System of America**
Dallas, TX

“Here are answers—courageous, biblical, and eminently practical solutions—to furtive questions about improper relationships. A book begging to be written, this realistic discussion invades our increasingly unmanageable fantasyland where men-woman ministry teams often flirt with disaster in disguise. Single or married, everyone who works with the opposite sex needs to read and ponder this excellent heads-up manual on how to stay out of sexual sinkholes.”

- **Howard G. Hendricks, Chairman, Center for Christian Leadership**
Distinguished Professor, Dallas Theological Seminary