



CHRISTY MESAROS-WINCKLES
SPEAKER.RESEARCHER.ADVOCATE

SPEAKER BRIEF



FREEMETHODISTFEMINIST.COM



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CHRISTYMESAROSWINCKLES/

Dr. Christy Mesaros-Winckles, Ph.D., is a renowned communication expert with over ten years of experience researching the history of gender in Christian culture.

She has dedicated her career to uncovering hidden stories that have shaped our current understanding of gender roles and expectations. Her blog, Free Methodist Feminist, averages over 4k unique impressions each year. Furthermore, her research study on the Duggar Family and their TLC reality show *19 Kids and Counting* has been cited by reputable news outlets such as *Salon*, *Good & Marie Claire*, and is a go-to source for researchers.

As a passionate advocate for inclusive church culture and history, Dr. Mesaros-Winckles has been praised by audiences as a powerful and inspiring speaker who can inform and inspire listeners on important topics.

Her research has been presented at numerous academic conferences and churches across the United States. As a speaker, she uses her engaging style to help audiences understand the history of women's ministry opportunities in the United States and how, by understanding the past, we can build a more inclusive future.

SPEAKING TOPICS

B.T. ROBERTS AND HIS FORGOTTEN FEMINIST MANIFESTO ORDAINING WOMEN

B.T. Roberts' book, *Ordaining Women*, is a forgotten feminist manifesto of the nineteenth century. It outlines a powerful connection between women's opportunities in ministry and their advancements in other areas, including suffrage. This speech provides an in-depth look at Robert's inspiring ideas and leaves the audience with an appreciation for the power of religious ministry to effect positive change in society. *30-60 minutes*

REDISCOVERING OUR ROOTS: FREE METHODIST WOMEN'S HISTORY

Using historical documents, stories, and personal accounts, Christy will trace the contributions of women evangelists in the 19th and 20th centuries. This speech draws attention to these female pioneers, highlighting the accomplishments of Free Methodist women and encouraging the audience to explore the history of their denomination and local church to uncover the stories of overlooked founders. *30-60 minutes*

HOW TO BUILD A GENDER INCLUSIVE CULTURE IN CHURCH

In a world where popular culture often influences our understanding of the Bible, many Christians are unaware of their own denomination's egalitarian theology. I'm here to help! My speech explains basic egalitarian scriptural interpretation and provides practical suggestions from communication theory to combat complementarian media and resistance to women in church leadership roles. *40-60 minutes with optional group break out discussion prompts*

FM FEMINIST BLOG REACH

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Vision Forum: The Giant of the Christian Patriarchy Movement	1,368
Debating the Same Points for Centuries	1,309
Curriculum Vita and Website Information	1,257
Women & Religious Fundamentalism: A Tension between Christian Patriarchy & The Taliban?	1,077
A Historical Overview on Divorce & What the Free Methodist Church Believes	1,074
Rally the Equality Troops: We have a Rhetorical Battle to Fight	909
Emma and Lloyd Ray	899
Wear Your Sunday Best- Really? Rethinking Sunday Fashion	890

FREE METHODIST
FEMINIST

salon

In her academic essay, "[Christian Patriarchy Lite: TLC's 19 Kids and Counting](#)," Christy Ellen Mesaros-Winckles said that while the concept of being "barefoot and pregnant" lost overall social cachet decades ago, it's still alive and well in the Quiverfull movement.

And while, Mesaros-Winckles said, the theology underlying the Duggars' beliefs was often underplayed, "conformity and a rigid male leadership hierarchy often place women in the Quiverfull movement in subservient roles."

marie claire

"The rhetorical impact of this ideology is far more pervasive than most people understand," says Christy Mesaros-Winckles, communications chair at Adrian College in Michigan, who studies evangelical culture. "We have individuals who espouse Christian-patriarchy ideas who have access to the most powerful public officials in America."

GOOD

As Mesaros-Winckles describes it, "We're in a time of confused theology in Christian culture," one in which traditional authority is often questioned, especially in nondenominational churches. The ascendancy of believers unschooled in traditional theology "allows a lot of individuals coming in and seeking power [an opportunity] to take advantage of the situation, and the most dynamic personality is going to become the leader."

LECTURES

February 2023, "B.T. Roberts and His Forgotten Feminist Manifesto *Ordaining Women*," Ashland University D. Stratton Conference hosted by Ashland University Center for Nonviolence.

April 2022: "Saved, Sanctified and Filled with the Spirit," Wesley Symposium: Tyndale University, Toronto, CA.

May 2018: "Called to Serve: A Rhetorical History of the Wesley Deaconess Movement," Rhetorical Society of America Bi-Annual Conference Re-inventing Rhetoric, Minneapolis, MN.

January 2016: "The Hypocrite, The Devotee, and the Believer: The Transference of Culture Power for Parent to Child in 19 Kids and Counting." Gender, Media and Religion Conference. University of Boulder, CO.

November 2014: "The Rise of the Womb-Man: Nancy Cambell's Patriarchal Manifesto." Women and Gender Studies Division, National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

April 2011. "Rediscovering our Roots: Free Methodist Women's History" to undergraduate communication students at Spring Arbor University.

INTERVIEWS &
PRESENTATIONS