

Happy Mother's Day | Not Always Easy – Vertical Church Loves & Appreciates You | Pat & Autumn

Community Committed to the Course: God's Church...God's Way | Titus 2

The Mechanism God has chosen to display His will and Work most powerfully is through the church!

Universal Church = Heavenly Assembly | Local Church = Earthly Assembly

Celebrate Our Local Church Impacting Universal Church = **Brian | Barelás | Baptist | Korean**

Church Health is not defined by: Population – Property – Programming – Preference | Either Way

Health is determined by God's People: Proclaiming God's Word – Relying on God's Power

Praying for God's Presence – Following God's Prescriptions

Big Idea – God Designed His Church to Thrive with Honorable Leaders

I got my degree in Christian Ministry Leadership = **Book** | Joseph Stowell – Redefining Leadership

Eph. 4:11-12 'And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors, the teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ'

The Local Church - Vertical Church Albuquerque...Must be a Leadership Factory

DISCOVER – DEVELOP – DEPLOY...BIBLICAL LEADERS

We take it seriously – You should take it seriously – Because God Takes it Seriously

Context - Titus 2:1 = What to teach (Sound Doctrine) | Titus 2:7-8 = How | Connects the two

⁷ Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. | **PRAY** | **A leader in God's Church Must...**

1. **Present an Example to Follow (7a)** - Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works

Paul's given general admonition for Titus to develop Older & Younger Men and Women...now to Titus

• Held to a higher standard...he must be an example to all who follow his leadership

John Maxwell – 'A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way'

Sound Doctrine's not only instructed but Exemplified...How? Good works – Reflection of Sound Doctrine

No matter how compelling a leaders teaching...if the life is not reflected...fall on deaf ears

Example must follow instruction to avoid hypocrisy | Hypocrisy = Claimed without Conformity

• Some of Jesus' harshest words were to religious hypocrites – **Shakes and Brood of Vipers**

Example = **Tupos** | Instrument that leaves an impression / **Sword – Hammer** | **Surgeon – Molder**

1 Cor. 11:1 'Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ' | Not trying to make you like us...CHRIST

• **Leaders should not want you to be them...be you...like Christ**

Be a Leaders – Follow Leaders - that Leaves Powerful Biblical impressions

2. **Proclaim with Biblical Consistency (7b-8a)** **Paul...three compliments to teaching sound doctrine and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned,**

a) **Integrity** – Purity of Doctrine...not corrupted or used for selfish gain | **Take Bible out of Context**

b) **Dignity** – Distinguishes from the vital and the trivial | Reverence for the Opportunity | **WORD**

c) **Sound Speech that Cannot be Condemned** – Everyday Life...Rude...Offensive

Jeff Foxworthy – Saw the top of your head off with a stick | Root around stick | Find Clot

There is no way I'm letting that guy near my physical health – **Near my Spiritual Health**

Consistency is key to impacting people – **Taught and Caught** | **Kids how to ski = Discipleship**

Honorable Leaders – Integrity of Doctrine – Reverence for the Word – Speech Cannot be Condemned

3. **Protect the Integrity of the Message (8b)**

so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

This is the effect of teaching – It is a reflected reason for such high standards for Christian Leaders

That we may put critics of: Christ – His Church – His People - to shame

How does this work – When an opponent of the Gospel makes a charge against Christ / Church

• **A Christian Leaders Teaching and Life should leave the opponent without evidence**

Murdered – FL – Golden | **NO PROOF** | **Brains at Door – Hate** **People Group** | **Offer no proof**

What is true effective evangelism? Programs? Marketing Strategy? Mass Mailers? Email Blasts?

Real people...really sold out for Christ and the Gospel | Genuine Virtue – Moral Purity

Godly believers whose lives give proof of the Truth of God's Word & the power of Christ to redeem sinners

People should see our lives and be curious and compelled | Protects the Integrity of the Message

Side Bar - Many have been wounded by Christian Leaders who didn't protect integrity of the message

We all have stories where a leaders behavior compromised the message of Christ – Hurts - Personal

Make less of the few and much of the greater – Hundreds of Thousands Biblical Leaders...

• **Men and Women will fail you...but Christ never will**

Leader God's Church must:

• **Present an Example to Follow | Proclaim with Biblical Consistency | Protect the Integrity of the Message**

Five Foundational Stones of Biblical Leadership

a) **Conviction** – How convinced and confident are you that the Bible is TRUE?

b) **Character** – How time-tested is your conviction that the Bible is TRUE?

c) **Credibility** – How evident is your time tested conviction that the Bible is TRUE?

d) **Competency** – How developed is your evident, time-tested conviction that the Bible is TRUE?

e) **Chemistry** – Where do you fit with your developed, evident, time-tested, conviction Bible is True

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