

Build Your Life

What are you laboring for?

Titus 1:1-9

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

Paul, a servant[a] of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began[b] 3 and at the proper time manifested in his word[c] through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior; 4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. Qualifications for Elders 5 This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— 6 if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife,[d] and his children are believers[e] and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. 7 For an overseer,[f] as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. 9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound[g] doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

Titus 1:1-9

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Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- Would you consider yourself a person of high character and integrity?
- What makes a good leader? Do you think you have those qualities?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- As you reflect on last weekend’s sermon, what one principle or insight stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful, or difficult to grasp?
- Read Titus 1:1-9. Titus is being asked to appoint Elders in every town that act as shepherds of the flock (please read 1 Peter 5:1-5).
- What difference does it make if a leader’s private life is of high character and integrity or not?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- God has appointed order (Titus 1:5) in society. He has appointed governing authorities over countries, parents over children, and Elders over churches. What is the purpose of healthy authority? How is it a blessing to you to be under godly authority in the church?
- What is the purpose of godly authority according to Titus 1:1-3? Do you believe in the purpose that Paul and the Elders are laboring for? Are you, or would you like to build your life upon that purpose?
- Read Hebrews 13:17. What is expected of the flock in relationship to the Elders?
- Should there be higher expectations for church leaders as opposed to secular leaders?
- Do you think Church leadership is always perfect? Why or why not?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- Have you ever thought of being a part of Church leadership, if you aren’t already? If so, in what way?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What’s a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How’s your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What’s something you’d like someone else to check in with you about this week? Pray for one another.