

## Let's Get Practical

### I. Slide1a Intro: Let's Get Practical

- A. Titus has been sent by Paul to *set the churches in order*. And now he shifts from the *protection* of sound doctrine, to the *practice* of sound doctrine.
- B. He's also teaching about *the ethics* of the kingdom, *How we should live!*
1. This is a very practical section. What it should look like to live a life of *godliness* at home, at work, in relationships, and more.
  2. How should we live in response to **God's grace**?
  3. We will see it in our *Godliness*, and in our *witness*.
- C. Titus is being urged to *share the gospel of grace*. Which was unusual and different in his day, as it is in ours.
1. **Slide1b** It is what makes Christianity unique. *\*It's not about what we do, but what God has done for us.*
- D. When it comes to *the grace of God* there are **2 mistakes** that are often made:
1. The 1st one is *antinomianism* (basically if you believe in *grace*, you can live however you want to live). *Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound, God forbid.* Grace doesn't give you the license to sin.
  2. The 2nd is, some think that you need *grace* to become a Christian, but once you do, then you do it on your own. That's a big mistake, and Titus deals with that as well. It is thru *His grace* that we **live out** these values.
- E. Note **2 appearances** (11,13). We live in between the 2. In between Xmas & 2nd coming
1. Vs.12 explains, in this present age *we are to live godly lives*.
- F. Which begs the question, *What does it look like?* Which Titus is now sharing with us in these first 10 verses.

### II. Slide2 TEACH WHAT IS FITTING (1) Read 1-10

- A. **Slide3** (1) **Teach** *the doctrine* (in the orig there is a def article). **See also 10b.** **But** not just teach it, but *what accords with sound doctrine*.
1. **Accords with** or *is fitting, or corresponds, or is consistent with* the gospel.
  2. **Is your life consistent with the gospel or inconsistent?**
- B. **Now** before we get into **the lists** of what we *should do*, **how do we square** what is *all of grace*, with being told to *do something*. **Doesn't** that start stepping into the realm of legalism? **No**, **grace lovers** are *sin haters*. **And** down in vs.14 he says, *He is purifying himself a people*.
- C. Name the **5 groups** in our passage. Realize, there's some thing to learn in each of the groups. **Older men** were considered over 40 yrs of age, under 40 considered **young**.
- D. **Note:** Paul tells us that the pastor, or pastors, **can't** solve all the churches problems. *We need the older women to help the younger women, etc.*
- E. **Slide4a** Also, **use this** as a **prayer list** for CM.
- F. **Note:** the *interweaving of lives* in the **community life** of the church.
1. **It's a call** to live differently. **It's a call** to not just *protect* sound doctrine, but *practice* sound doctrine. **It's a call** for the Christian life **not** to be lived **independently**, **but** to **interweave** our lives into **the community life** of the church.
  2. **Slide4b** The church is **a burden bearing community** (not American individualism)
- G. Today we deal with an **Intergenerational Church** (now **6 generations** in America)
1. **G.I. Generation (Builders)** 1901-1926. **Mature Silents (Compassionates)** 1927-1945. **Baby Boomers** 1946-1964. **Gen X** 1965-1980. **Gen Y (Millennium)** 1981-2000. **Gen Z (Boomlets)** 2001+ [you are welcome & needed here!]
  - a) Each generation has some distinct characteristics, distinct attitudes and perspective on *work, life, entertainment, family, religion, ethics*. We are shaped by **our generational culture**, what's going on in the world around us, many have been shaped by **crisis and tragedy**. One main thing is whether we have **lived it or learned it**. We are shaped by our upbringing, by what is happening in politics, by our peers, etc.

2. **Generations collide on many things in the church:** conflict over worship style, music, lighting, pace, loudness, length, formality, Bible translations, different views on *what is church*, how to behave in the building, attendance, disagreements on \$ spent on Missions overseas **vs.** our domestic Outreach.
  - a) **How do we minister across these lines? Do we blend worship? Do we keep everyone segregated in different rooms, some worshiping traditional, others contemporary? That not integration. Do we target one group and let the rest go elsewhere? It's not about keeping everyone happy. How can we be effective as we build His kingdom?**
3. **Slide5** How about we: *Learn* (about their generation), *Listen* (Listen to their stories, listen to their views, listen to their heart), *and Love* (love them where they are at, and they will respond. People want to be loved, valued, and appreciated, no matter what generation) **all 6 generations!**
  - a) **Let's get out of our silo's and learn to enjoy the other Gen's.** (and not speak down to younger one's). **In missions we teach *cultural sensitivity* same same here!**

### III. Slide6a **OLDER MEN (2)**

- A. **Sober-minded** – levelheaded, cool spirited.
- B. **Dignified** – sense of maturity about him. You're young only ones but can be immature your whole life.
- C. **Self-controlled** – His passions are under control.
- D. **Sound in faith** – a confidence in God.
- E. **Sound in love** – serve people.
- F. **Steadfast** - persevering through hard times, death, disappointments.

### IV. Slide6b **OLDER WOMEN (3)**

- A. **Reverent in behavior** – this was a word used in the temple, like a priestess, like Anna. It speaks of **inner beauty**, like in Prov.31:30

*Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.*

- B. **Not slanderers or slaves to much wine** - these seem to go together, as often *when you drink too much, you end up running your mouth a lot.*
1. **Diabolous** (devil) attacking the reputation of someone. Older ladies watch your tongue.
- C. **Teach what is good** - all 1 word in Gk (καλοδιδάσκαλος), It is a very unique word, only use once. **But** don't think formal instruction, *but rather the advice and encouragement they give privately by word and example.* LKGNT
1. Today we call it *mentorship, discipleship, coaching.* Bottom line is, **older ladies ... take the lead.**

## V. Slide6c **YOUNGER WOMEN (4,5)**

- A. **Train them to love.** **Train?** Yes it takes *training* because loving your spouse & children is **hard**, it's about *sacrifice and service.*
1. **Be husband-loving and children-loving.** *She's a one-man woman.*
- B. **Self-controlled** - that is with your **tongue** & your **mind.** *Don't let your mind run all over the place ... like on Facebook.*
- C. **Pure** -
- D. **Working at home** - Paul is not prohibiting women to work outside of the home.
1. **See** Prov.31 for the *highest esteemed women* in Scripture (she's a business woman & a wife & a mom).
  2. She should be the *primary caretaker* of the home. (double duty).
- E. **Kind** - hospitable, graceful, loving.
- F. **Submissive to their own husbands** - **not inferiority**, **but** just like **Jesus** who *submitted* himself to the Father.
- G. **Purpose?** That the word of God may not be reviled.

## VI. Slide6d **YOUNGER MEN (6-8)**

A. **self-controlled** – because if you lose it here you lose it everywhere.

1. Charles Ellicot said, *A young man's duty is simply & comprehensively enunciated in this one word.*
2. This is the exact problem of the young man in Prov. 5 & 7 with a woman coming onto him. And because of his lack of self-control “he does not know that it will cost him his life.”

B. **Did you pick up on this?** Older men be *self-controlled*, older women are to teach younger women to be *self-controlled*, younger men *self-controlled*, and down in vs.12 *self-controlled*.

1. **Self-control** means: *your temper, your ambition, your appetites, your sexual urges.* You don't just ooze into self control, it doesn't just happen.
2. **Slide6** Paul says in 1 Cor.9:25 25 *Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.*

[So the Bible understands your condition very well]

C. **We need a revival in that sense of self-control.** And it must be **possible** because we're told to do it here. **How do we do it?**

1. **Self-control** is a *fruit of the spirit*, that's the only way. And a little bit later we see that only **grace** makes this possible.
2. So it is **possible**, just **not** in *your own power*. **Admit your weakness, and lean into the strength that God supplies.**

## VII.Slide6f **BONDERVANTS (9-11)**

A. Not like *slavery* in Amer history (Paul speaks against that in 1 Tim.1:10 *enslavers*).

B. **Bondservant** or *slavery* in the bible included miserable conditions at times, **but** also included *apprentices, indentured Relationships, domestic workers. Some held governmental offices. And the slave could be considered one of the masters household.*

- C. We should translate this more towards *employees*. How should employees Live a godly life? How we should live at work? 3 things:
1. Be productive. Instead of *transferring jobs, transfer masters* ... you work for Jesus! Don't do anything *unbiblical, unethical, or immoral*. But do be a good model of productivity.
  2. Be pleasant in your speech. Not argumentative. No backtalk. No being a complainer.
  3. Don't Steal stuff.
- D. Slide7 And why should we do all of these things? (10 *so that* ...)
- E. Why? 1st reason is *to please Jesus*. 2nd is *to persuade others*.
1. Note, the 3 purpose clauses (*that*) have to do with your public witness.
  2. Adorn - *kosmeo*, where we get *cosmetics*, to make attractive. So ...
    - a) What does your **marriage** say about the gospel today?  
What does your **friend relationships** say about the gospel today?  
What does your **work life** say about the gospel today?
  3. People will trip on **the cross**, but they shouldn't trip over **you**. *The cross is a stumbling block, you shouldn't be.*
- F. Q: How did the gospel explode in China when it's not allowed to be shared publicly? A: It happened **at home and at work**, like Paul explains here.
- G. Keywords: Grace, self-control.