

Equipping The Generations

This workshop presents a practical examination of the Apostle Paul's instructions in Titus 2:1-8 regarding equipping older men, older women, younger women and younger men as a means of effective outreach and bringing lasting health back into the local church.

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Our Key Text: Titus 2:1-8 "But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine. Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance. Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, that the word of God will not be dishonored. Likewise urge the young men to be sensible; in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent may be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us." (NASB)

PART ONE: EMPOWERING OLDER MEN (Titus 2:2)

Titus 2:2 "Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance." "older men" = Greek: presbutas = "advanced in years" (Lk 1:18; Ps. 90:10)

The Six Qualities of Spiritually Fit Older Men

#1. Older men are to be temperate.

Titus 2:2 "Older men are to be temperate..." Greek: nephalios = unmixed with wine/calm/not given to extremes/even keeled (KJV: sober) e.g. Elisha, the Prophet: The Temperate Man (2 Kings 6:14-17; cf. 1 Cor. 15:34))

#2. Older men are to be dignified

Titus 2:2 "Older men are to be...dignified..." (Greek: semnos = "a seriousness of purpose/honorable/worthy of respect/ grave (KJV) e.g. Nehemiah: The Dignified Man (Nehemiah 1:4-11; 8:10)

#3. Older men are to be sensible.

Titus 2:2 "Older men are to be...sensible..." Greek: sophron = sound judgment - "horse sense"
e.g. Jethro: The Sensible Man (Exodus 18:13-24)

#4. Older men are to be sound in faith.

Titus 2:2 "Older men are to be...sound (lit. healthy) in faith..." e.g. Caleb: The Man of Sound Faith (Joshua 14 :8)

#5. Older men are to be sound in love.

Titus 2:2 “Older men are to be sound...in love...” Greek: agape = to value others as God values them. (KJV: charity) e.g. The Prodigal Son’s Father: The Man of Sound Love (Luke 15; 1 Peter 4:8)

#6. Older men are to be sound in perseverance.

Titus 2:2 “Older men are to be...sound...in perseverance.” (Greek: hupomone = endurance/tenacity/stay under (KJV: patience) e.g. The Prophet Jeremiah: The Persevering Prophet (Jeremiah 1)

PART TWO: EQUIPPING OLDER WOMEN

Titus 2:3-4 “Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good so that they may encourage the young women...”

The Five Qualities of Spiritually Fit Older Women

#1 Older women are to be reverent in their behavior.

Titus 2:3 “Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior...” = “behavior that becometh holiness” (KJV) “...behavior that is fitting for a priest...” — on sacred duty/ a sanctuary e.g. Naomi: The Reverent Woman (Ruth 1:16-17; 1 Pet. 3:3-5; 1 Tim. 2:9-10)

#2. Older women are not to be malicious gossips. Titus 2:3 “...not malicious gossips...” gossips = Greek: diabolous = gossips, slanderers, false accusers --”devils” cf. Rev. 12:10 The Devil = The Accuser = The Gossiper (Prov. 6:16-19 cf. 1 Tim 3:11; 5:13; Prov 11:22; 20:19)

- slander = telling that which is not true
- gossip = telling that which may be true to the wrong person
- innuendo = indirect remarks (i.e. hints)

#3. Older women are not be enslaved to much wine.

Titus 2:3 “...nor enslaved to much wine...” (cf. 1 Cor. 6:12; Eph 5:18)

#4. Older women are to be teaching what is good.

Titus 2:3 “...teaching what is good...” Greek: kalodidaskolos = kalos: good beautiful/balanced/whole + didaskolos = teacher of that which is good or beautiful (1 Pet. 3:3-5)

#5. Older women are to be encouraging younger women.

Titus 2:4-5 “...encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.” encourage: Greek: sophronidzo = to school/train/correct/bring one to their senses/to make sober minded

PART THREE: ENCOURAGING YOUNGER WOMEN

Titus 2:4-5 "...encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored."

The Seven Qualities of Spiritually Fit Younger Women

#1. Younger women are to be lovers of their husbands

Titus 2:4 "...encourage the young women to love their husbands..."

"lovers of their husbands" = Greek: philandrous = husband-lover/husband-friend (Mal. 2:14; 1 Sam 1:8)

#2. Young women are to be lovers of their children

Titus 2:4 "...encourage the young women to be...lovers of their children..."

"lovers of their children" = Greek: philoteknous = children-lovers - children-friends (at every age) e.g. Hannah: The Woman with a Heavenly Perspective (1 Samuel 1:9-11, 27-28)

#3. Younger women are to be sensible

Titus 2:5 "...encourage the young women to be...sensible..."

sensible = Greek: sophron = sober-minded, practical and self-controlled e.g. Abigail: The Wife of Nabal = The Sensible Woman (1 Samuel 25:32-33)

#4. Younger women are to be pure

Titus 2:5 "...encourage the young women to be...pure..." "pure" = Greek: hagnos = pure, chaste, modest, "clear of vice" (Matt 5:8; Prov 11:22) e.g. Esther: The Queen = Adorned with Purity and Passion (Esther 4:14)

#5. Younger women are to be workers at home.

Titus 2:5 "...encourage the young women to be...workers at home (Greek: oikorgous)..."

Prov. 31:16-17 "She considers a field and buys it; from her earnings she plants a vineyard...and works hard" cf. 1 Timothy 5:14 e.g. The Proverbs 31 Woman: The Working Wife With a Heart for Home (Prov. 31:10-31)

#6. Younger women are to be kind.

Titus 2:5 "...encourage the young women to be...kind (Gk: agathos = generous)..."

cf. 1 Timothy 5:10; Prov. 31:20, 26 e.g. Dorcas (Tabitha) = The Kind Woman (Acts 9:36-39)

#7. Younger women are to be subject to their own husbands.

Titus 2:5 "...encourage the young women to be...subject to their own husbands..."

"being subject" = Greek: hupotasso = "...to rank under" Eph. 5:22; 1 Cor. 11:1 ff.) e.g. Sarah: The Wife of Abraham = The Submissive Wife (1 Peter 3:1-6)

Titus 2:5b "...so that the word of God may not be dishonored."

"dishonored" = Greek: blasphematai = blasphemed, spoken evil of, discredited, reviled, slandered and maligned

PART FOUR: EXHORTING YOUNGER MEN

Titus 2:6 “Likewise urge the young men to be sensible...”

“The glory of young men is their strength, and the honor of old men is their gray hair.”
(Proverbs 20:29)

The Remarkable Young Men of the Bible

- Young David, the Shepherd (1 Samuel 17) • Young Gideon, the Judge of Israel (cf. Judges 6-8)
- Young Jeremiah, the Prophet (cf. Book of Jeremiah) • Young John, the Apostle (John 19:25-27)
- Young Timothy, the Missionary-Pastor (1 Tim. 4:12) • Young Titus, the Missionary (Titus 2:7-8)

The Shortcomings of Youth (Eccl. 11:9-10)

“...vigorous young men stumble badly...” (Isaiah 40:30)

2 Timothy 2:22 “Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.”

What Young Men Need

Need #1. To Flee Foolish Passions

- Young men need to flee from being impulsive and reckless.
- Young men need to flee from being overly confident (Luke 22:33)
- Young men need to flee from the majors swings in attitude and behavior.
- Young men need to flee from being naïve (Prov. 7:7; 14:15; 22:3; 27:12; 14:18)
e.g. The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15)

Need #2. To Pursue Godly Wisdom

Titus 2:6 “Likewise urge the young men to be sensible (Greek: *sophroneo* = to act wisely, to be sober-minded, to use common sense, to be of right mind, to be prudent) cf. Titus 2:7-8 “prudent” = Hebrew: *ormah* = to strip/to make naked/peel off the layers of a problem/get to the core issue Prov. 22:3; 1 Sam 16:18; Prov 14:18)

Where Do Our Young Men Learn to be Sensible?

#1. Young men learn to be sensible from the Word of God

(Ps. 119:9; Prov. 1:1-7; James 1:5)

Psalm 119:9 “How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to your Word.”

#2. Young men learn to be sensible from the People of God (Prov. 1:8-9)

Titus 2:6 “Likewise urge (Greek: *parakaleo* = exhort, encourage, come alongside to help) the young men to be sensible...”

Titus 2:7-8 “...in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent may be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.” (NASB)

“Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” (Proverbs 27:17)

PART FIVE: ENGAGING THE GENERATIONS

Titus 2:7-8 "...in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach..."

Regarding generational differences as it relates to...

The Language of Technology In the Digital Age

Group #1. The Digital Dinosaurs - The language of technology is a completely foreign language

Group #2. The Digital Immigrants - The language of technology is a second language

Group #3. The Digital Natives - The language of technology is their mother-tongue

I. THE MANDATE FOR EMBRACING THE GENERATIONS

The Bible is clear regarding the need for God's people to minister cross-generationally (Ps. 71:17-18; Ps. 78:5-8)

Titus 2:7 "...in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds..."

"show yourself" = Greek: pareko = present yourself as an exhibit

"an example" = Greek: tupos = a model, a pattern, an impression

cf. 1 Cor. 11:1; 2 Thess. 3:7, 9; 1 Tim 4:12)

II. THE METHOD FOR EMBRACING THE GENERATIONS

Titus 2:7-8 "...in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach..."

A. Being Pure in Doctrine

Titus 2:7-8 "...in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine..." (cf. Eph 4:14)

B. Being Dignified in Behavior

Titus 2:7-8 "...in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified..."

We need models of mature Christians who are dignified (Greek: semnotes) in their behavior (cf. vv. 2, 3-4)

C. Being Sound in Speech

Titus 2:7-8 "...in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound (lit. healthy, wholesome) in speech which is beyond reproach (i.e. it can't be condemned or censored)..." (cf. Ps. 39:1; 141:3)

Ps. 39:1 I said, "I will guard my ways, that I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth as with a muzzle, while the

III. THE METHOD FOR SILENCING THE OPPONENTS

Titus 2:8 "...in order that the opponent may be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us." (cf. 1 Pet. 3:16)

1 Pet. 3:16 "...and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame."

THE POINT:

When we are equipping the generations to follow Christ we shame and silence our Great Adversary, the Devil and a world full of those who are antagonistic against the Church.

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