



Titus – Lessons for the Church
Wk. 7 Instructing the Younger
By Pastor Jody May 06/10/2022

Titus 2:4-8 ESV

⁴and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. ⁶Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. ⁷Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

[BACKGROUND]

We are coming to our 7th week in Titus so let's review again why we are studying this epistle of Paul:

Titus 2:11-12 ESV

[11] For the **grace of God** has appeared, bringing **salvation for all people**, [12] **training us** to **renounce** ungodliness and worldly passions, and **to live** self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,

The Gospel **SAVES, TRAINS,** and **FUELS** us to **LIVE** on the Great Commission!

What is the **great commission**? (**Matt 28:18-20**; Mark 16:15-18; Luke 24:44-49; John 20:21; and Acts 1:8)

¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to **observe** all that I have commanded you.

The command is to make disciples, of all nations, baptizing, showing one's acknowledgement of being conquered, of dying to self. Then these converts



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are to observe (τηρέω (*tēreō*)). vb. **to keep; to guard, watch, protect¹**) all the things that Jesus had commanded the disciples, that is the GOSPLE. To keep/guard/protect a thing is not only to adhere to it yourself but to combat those that would seek to change it, to alter it, to deconstruct it, so one of the things a Christian does is **seek to combat heresy**. The piece that is not in this part of scripture is the how? How are we to teach people to guard/observe the Gospel?

[EXAMPLE/ILLUSTRATION] My dad and extensions cords...

What kept me alive many years as I put up ceiling fans, put in lights, and replaced receptacles in all my homes and various church buildings was because my dad MENTORED me: He showed me while he instructed me, taught me as he made mistakes, and helped me when I was failing. The Christian life was modeled by Christ when He was with us, He never did anything alone, except rest because all of life is discipleship. Paul is telling Titus today, that the way we are going to protect the Gospel after I come and get you before winter, is to make sure those leaders you are picking, they need to have MENTORS that will **OBSERVE** all that we are teaching them.

Today we are going to look at three benefits of Mentorship in this passage, so that we become better overseers of the Gospel, establishing the church for the next generation. First, we are going to look at the whys of Christian Mentorship - what does Paul seek to accomplish from this style of teaching, what is it that God is seeking to do. Secondly, we are to look at how these mentorships are to take place - what is the process and what is the relationship supposed to look like between mentor and students. Then lastly, we look at specifically what it is that is supposed to be taught. The whys, the how's, and the what's...

1. Mentorship Protects God's Word and Puts Evil to Shame.

⁴... that the word of God may not be reviled.

¹Gabrielson, T. A. (2014). [Obedience](#). D. Mangum, D. R. Brown, R. Klippenstein, & R. Hurst (Eds.), *Lexham Theological Wordbook*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.



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⁸ ...so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

Christianity is spread by the act of evangelism, think of it this way (in light of our previous illustration): evangelism is the electric current of Christianity, it is what spreads the good news. The Gospel comes into our homes via the explanation of the fulfillment of scriptures in Jesus, so that we may have life.

It takes someone that understands how this current works, that understands godliness, that understands grace, that understands mercy, that understands the unmerited love of God, that can teach another person about it, to evangelize them. It takes a God fearer to guard, watch, and protect God's Gospel so that what a God searcher receives is actually a true God-given Gospel.

So, when people view that the lights are on in your home, spiritually, when they see you are doing well in what seems like some dark and crazy times in our country, it produces in them one response: **Desire**.... They either desire to **see why** you are still happy in the midst of a dark world and will draw near OR they desire to **extinguish** what you have because your light magnifies the darkness, they are in. **We are witnessing this right now in our nation.**

This past week our nation has been preparing to hear the Supreme Courts opinions on a matter of topics of which one is most likely their dissent on *Roe vs. Wade*. By one news media source Christians were targeted for this upcoming decision, blaming us already as if it had been overturned already:

We were blamed as to pushing our rights and taking away others, no mention that we believe we are fighting for the life of the unborn.

We were told this is a "White" Christian problem which attacks Christians of other Ethnicities while trying play the race card to divide us.

We were told this is Christian Extremism, not Christian Normal, and that this had to do with Christians voting in Politicians to get their way on all things.



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It sounds like the beginning to me, when 2,000 years ago there were complaints against the first century church when they chose not to accept the cultural norms. **Culture wants to turn the lights off...**

Now is not the time to hide family, as Jesus said,

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden” (Mat 5:14).

You want a strong testimony, you want to be an effective witness for your Lord, then listen to how the Cretans, Christian people that were living in a secular driven culture, listen to how Paul strategizes for them, how they were going to keep the lights on.

There are two different places in today’s passage where we see the desired effects of Evangelism on this pagan world. In these instances, we see Paul give his reasoning as to why he wants **people trained in the gospel by mentorship**. The first example has to do with the ladies.

⁴... that the word of God may not be reviled.

Reviled is not a common word we use today, it is also the Greek word for blasphemy, slander, and defamation. **Mentorship is the way to protect the credibility of God’s Word**, it protects the teaching of it, it doesn’t allow the media to teach people what Christianity is, because **that is the ministry role of the local congregant of the visible church.**

I have seen more non-Christians lately on news media outlets do more teaching on Christianity than Christians have. They do this because they seek to defame God’s Word. The most attacked Christians, by other so-called Christians, on social media right now are the ones that quote Bible verses while the ones that declare, “*Jesus wouldn’t do that*”, or “*Jesus would have been like this*” are protected and given a pass... Look if someone is trying to tell you what Jesus would be like without quoting scripture, they are trying to create for you a Graven Image, a False Idol, or a Golden Calf.

Jesus said Himself, **Luke 24:25-27 ESV**

²⁵ And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer



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these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

You cannot separate Christ from scripture, the God of the OT is the God of the NT. Jesus fully embraced, supported, taught, protected, and lived out the commands of the OT. Better than that, He did it in front of His disciples, which is why nothing taught in the NT negates anything in the OT, thanks to their oversight. The Gospel IS the Gospel because it gives us the good news that says Jesus fulfilled all the OT, so we are **no longer condemned** while the world wants to take away the need for Jesus **leaving you in condemnation!** That is defamation of God's Word if I have ever heard it!

Mentorship as the answer for evangelism and discipleship also has another effect on the world that they don't like. It might help you realize their anger towards us sometimes.

⁸ ...so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

It is through the process of mentorship, drilling down into the younger ones in the church, that the opponents of the Gospel are put to shame. The instruction in the ways of godliness removes their ability to condemn us, they cannot judge us as they judge each other. The **world always judges by comparison to their accomplishments**, Christianity can't be judged that way for the **Gospel** says we are **judged by Jesus' accomplishments**. Even when we mess up, we can't be judged for Jesus even took the punishment for our failings.

Mentorship protects God's Word, keeps it from being diluted and defamed and it puts evil to shame by Mentored godly living. Today perhaps you have fallen into believing more of what the world has had to say about Christians than what God's people say, it's probably because you have not found the mentor you need. Today church if you want to help our next generation of believers are you praying for them, are you praying for the opportunity to influence a life for Christ, are you showing the ways of Christian living to someone? It is all a part of the Great Commission which is for all of us.



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2. Mentorship is passed down wisdom by same-sex role models.

³**Older women** likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to **teach what is good,** ⁴ and **so train the young women**

First off let's talk about the ladies of Crete. The Older women, that Bill so eloquently encouraged 2 weeks ago, as a Proverbs type of woman are to train the younger women. **Train:** σωφρονίζω (*sōphronizō*):² Encourage, admonish, & schooled. Ladies the intent is very clear we are not to allow our culture to dictate to our younger women what they are to wear, what they are to focus on, that is our job.

We see here Paul's strategy laid out. The way we have healthy families in the church raising up next generation influencers, instead of **Tik Tok - a communist controlled think tank**, is to make it a closed system. You shut out the worldly influences and get the younger ladies focused on what is important. The older wiser beautiful woman of faith, a Sarah like woman, is to do the training:

Heb 11:11 ESV

¹¹By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since **she considered him faithful** who had promised.

We need women like Sarah that when life gets rough, when money is tight, when you can't find baby food, when every young woman wants to attract a strong man but goes looking in the wrong places, we need a Sarah woman to tell the younger ladies **you put your faith in God**, not in what you can do for yourself. God waited for her youth to fade and her child birthing years to dwindle before He would allow her to be the mother of our ancestors. We need older women who have learned their lessons like Sarah did and bear the burden to pass it on.

² Swanson, J. (1997). [Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek \(New Testament\)](#) (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.



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⁶Likewise (YOU – Titus), **urge** the **younger men** to be self-controlled. ⁷**Show yourself** in all respects to be a **model**

Now again Paul shows the model for mentorship here for the young man, but to start it with Titus. Most likely representing the importance of the work they were starting on Crete and possibly because of the taint of male leadership on the island, of this we are not sure. What we can be sure of is again we see a same-sex relationship for training, but Paul uses a different word here; **Urge**: παρακαλέω (*parakaleō*) beg, plead, & invite. Titus, stir up the affections in the men around you, and then show them, no more than that – **MODEL what it is to follow God.**

In this culture men, look we can't control what goes on out there, but what we can do is control what happens in here, in our house. We all have a place to encourage one another, but your encouragement, your teaching, your admonishment, the iron sharpening iron, however you want to say it, has no power unless you are willing to put up or shut up. You have the harder task guys because you are called to put your money where your mouth is.

If you want to have influence into the life of other's you can't just declare truth that you like, you have to live that truth out in front of others. Jesus multiple times in His ministry stopped bad teaching in its' track when He modeled the Gospel.

Many times, we isolate guys because we don't want to share our lives because of failures. But the good news of the Gospel for us guys is that **God wants you to highlight your failures** so **He can highlight His Grace**, so **He can Highlight His Son**, So **He can Highlight His unbreakable commitment to sinners!** Modeling for other men is not just about how to show someone how to do a right thing is to show someone how to fail gracefully.

If you want a platform that enables you to speak into the life of other men, to be heard, to have a seat at the table, then you have got to show that you have **submitted** your life to **THE MAN**, Jesus Christ in putting all of your life on display.



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Family it is important to protect God's Word and silence the accusers by enacting the **practice of mentorship** but in order for our mentorship to be effective we must bear a life that shows **Jesus is worth the sacrifice!** Ladies are you sharing your lessons of faith, where it was hard to trust God, with the next generation woman? Men are you submitting to Christ in all things and doing so in the witness of the men that you are trying to influence? When that happens, we all will be able to step into the lives of others and do the hard but necessary things.

3. Mentorship teaches what is hard but necessary.

⁴train the young women to
love their husbands and children,
⁵to be self-controlled,
pure,
working at home,
kind, and
submissive to their own husbands,

⁶Likewise, urge the younger men to
be self-controlled.
(Titus be a model) of good works, and in your teaching
show integrity,
dignity,
⁸and sound speech

It is one thing for me to stand up here every week and proclaim the hard truths. It is all another thing for you the church, **to proclaim them to each other.** I cannot follow up with each of you personally in your lives everyday, to see if you are adhering to the reading of the Word, the preaching of the Word, being obedient to the Word, but people living in accountable relationships can. AND it is needed for Paul is talking about some hard but necessary things that need to be addressed so that the world can see the brightness of the Gospel being displayed in the lives of God's people.



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Ladies just look at your list: love (be affectionate and kind) their husbands and children and I think all our ladies are like that's easy I got that! But the word there for love comes from the word *φίλανδρος* (*philandros*) (Philanthropy, Philadelphia city of brotherly love) a brotherly love which best demonstrates the type of love for a neighbor, and we know what Jesus said about loving neighbors?

So, ladies you are to love your family so be sure to show self-control (restraint in social living) purity (sexual restraint) working at home (dedication to home life first), kind (generous with possessions, time and money), and cherry on top submissive to their own husbands (does his will come first). All of these things went against a Cretan woman, who strove just to be as much as a scoundrel pirate type, a drunken, liar and sluggard, just like their husbands. It is a culture that would have loved to have a show called the **First Housewives of Crete**.

For the men you had to be self-controlled (sobriety, having a hard job and responsibilities is no excuse) good works (morally good and ethical works – are you loving your neighbor even when it is hard) integrity (honesty) dignity (seriousness is there more to you than work or play, do you live life for more than your appetites) sound speech (healthy words, able to make sense, bring clarity, dispel confusion). To me that means maturity, we need men who have grown up enough to tell other men to grow up.

Mentorship in all of this is hard but necessary. First these are very anti-cultural things right now. Thirty years ago most people in the church would agree with this list but in the church of today I don't think you get that high of an agreement. These are hard things to teach and model when the world accepts them as acceptable traits. Mentoring others means being counter cultural...

Secondly, being in this type of relationship is a part of the Christian walk, to have peer mentoring, or at least peer friendships that have a depth to them where trust is developed enough that one person can talk and the other person listens. It means that we have to pay attention to our tendencies



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where we only like to listen to people that like our status or agree with everything we have to say.

Peer Christian mentoring will have in the type of empathy that says I get how you feel but here is how God's Word tells you how to think. Peer mentoring is not easy, it means confrontation, affirmation, and responsibility for one another. The call is to die to self for others so that Christ may gain more in this world.

1 John 4:11 ESV

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

And now we have the specifics today on one of the ways to do this, as the older, wiser, mature must assume the responsibility of mentoring those put in their care by the Spirit.

Today let us rise church to the challenge of protecting the integrity of God's Word and putting the evil to shame by making sure we are engaging in mentoring relationships helping each other be the light in this world. In what relationships are you protecting the name of Christ?

Today let us seek out and make sure our next generation is not only being mentored in the ways of Godliness but let me make a challenge to you youngins as well. Anyone in this room can mentor someone else, and the way you increase your testimony is you got to live out your life in front of others and show them the way. In what relationships are you modeling success and failures?

Today, if you do not know Jesus is a saving way today is your day to be mentored first by the Spirit and accept His leading to confess and follow Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Then secondly it is to declare to this church your decision so you may be mentored in your next steps of Christianity. Have you taken on your relationship with a saving God or are you putting Him off still?



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Family may we all take the next step in our relationships with each other and become a brighter light in a world that can use the light of Gospel to dispel the darkness of a lost culture. It's not too late, God still wants to save and He wants to do it through us family. Let's pray and ask Him to do so now.

[PRAYER]

[COMMUNION]

[BENEDICTION]

Go in the name of the Father, that perfectly mentored His Son into a perfect life, ensuring that we would have a perfect substitute.

Go in the name of the Son, that mentored His men perfectly ensuring the church would receive a protected and powerful Gospel.

Go in the name and power of the Holy Spirit, that trains us to be the mentors needed for the next generation go and help a brother or sister today...