

The New Testament Church  
*Book of Titus #4: Discipleship: Church as an Extended Family*  
 Pastor Paul Jehle – June 5, 2022  
 Titus 2:1-8

I Titus' Mission to Crete

- A. The Challenge – how do you transform a culture that has abandoned absolute truth?
- B. The Mission – *reaching a lost culture whose homes have largely been ruined*
  1. Paul sends Titus (Greek) to strengthen spiritual foundations of believers (Acts 2:11)
  2. He is to appoint elders (God's hand, people's hand, leaders confirmation)
  3. But what should a church emphasize in reaching a culture that has rejected truth?
    - a. **Character is critical** – higher priority than gifts, talents and intellectual debate
    - b. **Qualities** (Christ-like) - *blameless* (above reproach); a *one-woman man* (covenantal faithfulness), *children under authority* (ability to manage a small sphere), *good steward* (wisdom), *control of emotions* (self-governed), *not greedy* (not under wine or money), *hospitable* (share resources), *a lover of good, sober (serious), just, holy, temperate...*
    - c. **Conscience** (a pure motive) must be discerned – it may take time to restore trust

II Titus 2:1-8 – *how do you build upon the foundation of the home when homes are in disarray?*

- A. Previously, Titus 1:10 – *for there are many insubordinate* (rebellious attitude), *both idle talkers* (gossip), *and deceivers* (false motives), *especially those of the circumcision* (Jews who should know better – whether believers or unbelievers)... *whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households* (in other words, the divisive talk and lack of morals has destroyed homes)
- B. The next characteristic essential to influencing the culture of Crete is **discipleship**...
  1. What is discipleship? *It is living out covenant relationships with accountability*
    - a. With homes dysfunctional/broken, organic relationships of old and young were critical
    - b. *The key area of discipleship mentioned here is **the church being an extended family***
  2. Titus was told by the Apostle Paul to *speak things which are proper for sound doctrine*
    - a. He addresses the *older men* (older in age, yes, but older in the faith – as a father)
      1. To be sober (serious), somehow years of experience sobers an individual
      2. To be reverent (a healthy respect and fear of God), we reap what we sow
      3. To be temperate (self-control, budgets, timing), sound in faith (doctrine) – essentials
      4. To be loving and patient – compassionate toward others, patient with mistakes
      5. Older men should admonish younger men (from v. 6-8)
        - a. To be sober-minded, a pattern of good works, in doctrine showing integrity
        - b. Reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech, above reproach
    - b. He then addresses the *older women* (again, not just older in age, but in faith as a mother)
      1. The same qualities above apply to the women, but he then adds for emphasis
      2. To be reverent in behavior, not slanderers (see the value of spiritual things)
      3. Also not given to much wine, teachers of good things (self-restraint and doctrine)
      4. What should older women focus on admonishing those younger women?
        - a. To love their husbands, demonstrating love regardless of the situation
        - b. To love their children, by teaching them to be discreet (sound mind), chaste (innocent, protected), homemakers (how to manage a household and children), obedient to their own husbands (a submissive attitude, yet in a team), that the Word of God be not blasphemed (in other words, we are to live out our faith)
- C. So how do you do this?
  1. Young and old seek to build organic relationships, you will find a discipleship group
  2. *Are we ready to model parenting skills to those who have had little by way of example?*