

Titus 2:1-10

Discussion Guide

Pray

Apart from God, we can do nothing. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion. Throughout your time together, continue asking God for help.

Read Scripture

Read Titus 1 and 2, with special focus on 2:1-10.

Bible Study: The HEAR Method

The bulk of your time will be spent discussing God's Word together. HEAR is an inductive Bible study method that looks closely at what the Bible says to discover what it means so that we can faithfully apply it to our lives.

HEAR stands for:

- **Highlight:** read and observe everything in the passage carefully.
- **Examine:** based on your observations, discover what the passage means in its context.
- **Apply:** determine how the meaning of the passage applies to your life.
- **Respond in prayer:** pray God's Word back to Him.

Remember:

- Walk through the Bible study together using the HEAR method and talk about what stuck out most to you in the passage.
- Make sure you move discussion to the application section of your study.
- Affections, beliefs, and practices: Make sure to apply the passage to all your life.

Pray

- Take time to pray for one another and ask for His grace to apply His Word to our daily lives.

Titus 2:1-10 (ESV)

"But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. ²Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. ³Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, 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.

⁹Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior."

Open: What makes for a healthy person? What makes for a healthy company? What makes for a healthy church?

Study: "Sound" means "healthy"—this is teaching that leads to spiritual and emotional health, to a good life characterized by good works, not just right/correct thoughts.

- 1) What must Titus do in 2:1? Why is this command necessary?

- 2) Read Titus 2:2-10 again. What challenges and temptations do these verses suggest are faced by these various groups?
 - Older men (vs. 2)?
 - Older women (vs. 3a)
 - Younger women (vs. 4-5)?
 - Younger men (vs. 6)?
 - Bondservants (equivalent to modern-day workers) (vs. 9-10)?
- 3) As well as teach, what must Titus make sure he does (v. 7-8a)?
- 4) Each group needs to learn different things in particular. But two things need to be taught across the groups. What are they? What does each mean? (See vs. 2, 5, 6; and vs. 5, 9)
- 5) As the members of the church, at their different stages of life and positions in society, live this way, what does Paul say will happen? (see vs. 5b, 8b, and 10b). What do these three purpose statements have in common? How do they relate to the overarching concerns of this letter (hint: remember chapter 1)?
- 6) What do you make of this claim that self-control and submission make the gospel attractive (remember how counter-cultural this would have been in Cretan society)? Do these stand out in our society as well? Why or why not?
- 7) In what context is all the teaching, training, mentoring, discipling of one another to take place? Why is the context so important in relationship to the fruit one should see in the lives of those who have been saved by the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Apply:

- 8) How does this passage teach us to view those within our church who are older than us and younger than us?
- 9) Which “type” of person are you? How does this passage of Scripture:
 - Encourage you in how you are living?
 - Challenge you to change how you are living?
- 10) If this is the kind of church community Titus is to form and lead in Crete, what might you start to do, or do more of (or less of!), to make your church more like this one?
- 11) How is the grace of the gospel calling you to be compelling counter-cultural at home and/or at work this week? How can we support you in this?

PRAY:

- Take time thank God for the eternal life we have through Jesus.
- Take time to thank God for your church family.
- Ask God to enable you to live as he wants, as the person he has made you, and in the circumstances he’s currently given to you.
- Ask God to show you who you could teach, or who you could be taught by, or both, within your church community.

NOTE: most questions have come from *The Good Book Guide to Titus* study by Tim Chester.