

TITUS: EVERYDAY THEOLOGY

Titus 2:1-15

Week Two

This week, Summit continues a sermon series on Paul’s letter to Titus. Titus 2 is a famous chapter for church leadership because it outlines a basic structure for discipleship in the local body. A multi-generational model for discipleship is often called “Titus 2” ministry. Paul also points out the benefits of men’s and women’s discipleship at times happening separately in a local church. This passage speaks to the different roles we fulfill – at home, in society, at church, and in the workplace – and describes what a godly life can look like in each role.

The chapter begins with a call to sound doctrine (v. 1), but then is almost exclusively concerned with behavior and character rather than theology. Titus 2 ends with a beautiful theological statement (2:11-14), which says that one of God’s purposes in the gospel is to create a people “who are zealous for good works.” Purity and self-control are themes that pervade the chapter. It was very important to the mission in Crete that Christians’ behavior would almost be a living, 3D advertisement for the gospel.

As an exercise in this study, we will compare Paul’s words to Titus with a couple of verses he wrote to the Galatians (Galatians 3-6 would be good background reading for this study). Paul makes the case in Titus the self-control and purity are integral parts of the Christian life. In Galatians, Paul reminds the church that Christ has set us free. We’ll talk about why those are not contradictory statements in small groups this week.

Work through these questions before you come to small group and be ready to interact with the Scriptures and questions below.

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. What from this weekend’s sermon did you find most applicable to you in your current roles and circumstances?

2. Read Titus 2:1-10. Even as different roles are described, what common themes about Christian behavior do you see in this chapter? What are some of the differences in roles that stand out to you as significant?

3. Why is it important to have multi-generational discipleship in a local church?



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4. How will you apply Titus 2:1-10 to your current vocation?

5. Open to Galatians 5:1 (keep a finger in Galatians for a minute). How does the notion of “freedom in Christ” compare with the call for Christians to be self-controlled and pure?

6. Flip to Galatians 3:28. How does the gospel create equality in race, gender, and status? How does this equality fit with the idea of different roles found in Titus?

7. Read and begin to memorize Titus 2:11-14 (this passage will be a part of all four Titus Small Group guides this month). How can “good works” advance God’s mission? Be specific about how your small group can be involved in God’s mission through “good works.”

Pray: Begin to pray through Titus 2:11-15. Here are some points that can guide your prayer:

- Reflect for a few minutes on where we would be and how we would be behaving if it were not for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Give thanks to God for the ways he has saved us from the evil and selfishness that springs up from within each of us.
- Pray that Christian communities in our area would become increasingly known as a people “zealous for good works.” Pray for specific efforts of the Summit Church that advance good works. Pray for other local churches in the area along the same lines.
- Pray that the gospel message would continue to give hope people of every race, gender, and status in our communities.

