

TITUS 2:1-2,6-10
Lesson #5

1. Begin with prayer. Confess any sin before you enter into studying God's Word.

Day One

2. What did you apply from last week's lesson? Share it with someone this week.
3. Read Titus 2 and review your chapter two summary from the Book Overview Chart or Lesson 1B.
4. Paul's primary concern for this church and every church is that the pastor teaches what is appropriate for sound doctrine. The word "sound" is a word our generation uses very little. It is the Greek word, *bugiano*, which means, "to be healthy." "Doctrine" is just another word for "teaching" or "principles." So, Paul wanted Titus to teach only information for healthy, spiritual living. According to these passages (2:1-2,6-10), what areas of instruction are important for a man's spiritual health?
5. What are the similarities and differences between the list for the older men and the list for the younger men? Why do you think that might be?
6. Though Paul is giving instruction for all younger men in 2:6-10, he seems to also be directly addressing Titus, since Titus was a young man. Why do you think Paul is concerned about Titus's behavior in these specific areas?

Pray:

- Pray this list for your believing husbands, sons, and/or grandsons right now. Pray that the Holy Spirit would transform each of them into the image of Christ.
- If your spouse, sons, and/or grandchildren are unsaved, beg the Lord for their salvation and that God would one day transform them into men after God's own heart.
- Pray for your pastor(s) in these areas.

Day Two

7. What are the six characteristics for the older men in verse 2, and what are their meanings? Use the Titus Translation Comparisons chart to help you with synonyms for each quality.

NASB	NKJ	Strong's #	NIV	Definition
		3524 from root 3525		<i>nephaleos</i>
		4586 from root 4576		<i>semnos</i>
		4998		<i>sophron</i>
		4102		<i>hugiano/pistis</i>
		26		<i>hugiano/agape</i>
		5281		<i>hugiano/hupomone</i>

8. According to Paul, an older man is to be temperate (sober). There are several examples in the Scriptures as to what it looks like when sobriety is not exercised. Look up the following texts to see what kinds of decisions some men have made in their excessive use and/or regular abuse of alcohol. See Genesis 9:20-24; Esther 1:7-12; Proverbs 20:1; 1 Kings 20:13-17; Proverbs 23:20-21; and Ephesians 5:18.

9. We are not to be controlled by anything other than the Spirit. What does it look like when someone is controlled by the Spirit of God according to Galatians 5:16?

10. The next characteristic on the list is, “dignified.” Someone who is dignified is someone who is worthy of respect because of his religious devoutness. Read Acts 10 and note the fruitful result of Cornelius’s devout character.

11. The next characteristic on the list is, “sensible.” An older man should be sensible because he has practiced self-control through the Spirit of God. How did the apostle Paul make it a practice to curb his passions and for what purpose? See 1 Corinthians 9:19, 27.

Pray:

- Pray that your husband, sons, and grandsons would be temperate, devout, and sensible.

Day Three

12. The next characteristic on the list is “sound in faith.” Think about what it would look like for a man, or anyone, to be healthy in faith. What life-habits and heart characteristics would be observable in this person’s life? Look up the following verses to help you formulate your answer: Joshua 1:8; Matthew 5:6; 1 John 1:9; Hebrews 3:13; and Acts 2:42-47.

Eager Beaver:

Read Genesis 15 and 22, and Hebrews 11:8-19. Who is mentioned in these passages, and how was his healthy faith manifested in his life?

13. The next characteristic on the list is “sound in love.” What does it mean to be healthy in love? Look up the following verses to help you formulate your answer: 1 John 2:4-5,15; 1 John 3:16, and 1 John 4:11.

14. The next characteristic on the list is “sound in perseverance.” On what should the mind be focused in order to be healthy in perseverance? (Philippians 3:20-21 and James 1:12)

Eager Beaver:

Who was an example of healthy perseverance in the Old Testament, and how was it manifested?

Pray:

- Pray now that God would make your husband, sons, and/or grandsons sensible and healthy in faith, love, and perseverance.

Eager Beaver:

Instruction and warnings to young men are abundant in scripture. Proverbs 1-9 are extensive instructions from Solomon to his sons. David gives many admonitions in the Psalms. Paul gives extensive instruction to Timothy and Titus in his letters. Read the following two quotes from commentaries on Titus 2:6-8. Then review 2:8 and explain why it is important for our young men to adhere to the instructions Paul is giving, and why it is important for us, as mothers and grandmothers, to teach and discipline our young men in these areas.

Here is the duty of young men. They are apt to be eager and hot, thoughtless and precipitant; therefore they must be earnestly called upon and exhorted to be considerate, not rash; advisable and submissive, not willful and head-strong; humble and mild, not haughty and proud; for there are more young people ruined by pride than by any other sin. The young should be grave and solid in their deportment and manners, joining the seriousness of age with the liveliness and vigor of youth. This will make even those younger years to pass to good purpose, and yield matter of comfortable reflection when the evil days come; it will be preventive of much sin and sorrow, and lay the foundation for doing and enjoying much good. Such shall not mourn at the last, but have peace and comfort in death, and after it a glorious crown of life. ~*Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible*

The idea is, that they should be entreated to be prudent, discreet, serious in their deportment; to get the mastery over their passions and appetites; to control the propensities to which youth are subject; and that there should be such self-government, under the influence of, religion, as to avoid excess in everything. A well-governed mind, superior to the indulgence of those passions to which the young are prone, will express the meaning of the word here. They should be "steady in their behavior, superior to sensual temptations, and constant in the exercise of every part of self-government." Doddridge. The reasons for this are obvious:

- (1) The hopes of the church depend much on them.
- (2) A young man who cannot govern himself gives little promise of being useful or happy.
- (3) Indulgence in the propensities to which young men are prone, will, sooner or later, bring ruin to the body and the soul.
- (4) They are just at the period of life when they are exposed to special temptations, and when they need to exercise a special guardianship over their own conduct.
- (5) Like others, they may soon die; and they should be habitually in such a frame of mind, as to be prepared to stand before God. A young man who feels that he may be soon in the eternal world, cannot but be sensible of the propriety of having a serious mind, and of living and acting as in the immediate presence of his Maker and Judge.

~*Albert Barnes' Notes on the Bible*

Pray:

- Pray that your sons and/or grandsons would be characterized by these qualities.

Day Five

18. Lastly, in verses 9 and 10, we come to the section on bondslaves who are under authority in their daily labor. Though we are studying this along with the instructions to men, slaves were both male and female in the ancient world. Paul gives five qualities for workers to aim to exemplify, and the motivation behind each quality. List the five qualities as listed in these three translations, and write the definitions for the Greek word:

NASB	NET	Strong's #	NIV	Definition
		5293		
		2101		
		483		
		3557		
		4102		

19. This list from Paul is such a good reminder to us all who are under authority. Let's ask ourselves how we are doing in these areas:

- Am I arranging myself under my husband and/or employer? In what ways?
- How much thought do I give to what my husband/employer has asked me to do today?
- Are his/her priorities my priorities?
- Do I make it my aim to please the Lord in my work?
- Do I talk back when I am given a task or assignment?
- Do I try to keep back something for my benefit, whether it's money, time, or some other pleasure?
- Do I show that I can be fully trusted?

20. Highlight one area in which you wish to grow the most. Note one or two people who can hold you accountable. Make a commitment to talk to her/them this week.
21. How can you be an example to your children of being subject to those in authority over you, and also require it of them?

Application:

22. Apply the lesson from this week by asking yourself:
- a. Have I learned something new about God?
 - b. Is there a promise on which I can meditate today that gives me hope?

Talk to God:

Praise and thanksgiving:

Confession:

Requests for self and others: