

DOING GOOD: "Man Up, Part 3"

THE ENCOURAGEMENT (TITUS 2:6)

- "**exhort** the young men" (v.6.) – "to come alongside to speak"; a present tense imperative, calling for continual action.

THE EMPHASIS (TITUS 2:6)

- "**exhort the young men to be sober-minded**" (v.6.) – *Sophroneo* means to have "self-mastery, self-control, discipline."

How do we pursue the discipline of self-control?

1. **Dependence:** Remember that self-control is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22-23).
2. **Discipline:** Self-control is both a gift and a duty (1 Cor 9:24-29, Titus 2:11-12).
3. **Dissatisfaction:** Paul had a holy discontentment that drove him to pursue Christ (Phil 3:12-14).
4. **Delay:** involves delayed gratification: laying aside short-term gains for long-term goals.
5. **Dialogue:** speaking to our own hearts instead of listening to our emotions (Psalm 42-43).
6. **Direction:** having focus and mental composure (Mark 5:15, 1 Peter 1:13).
7. **Distance:** involves a disciplined approach to avoiding temptation rather than trying to fight it.
8. **Destination:** "Moral toughness finds fuel in the hope of eternity" (1 Pet 1:3).

THE EXAMPLE (TITUS 2:7)

- "**Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works,**" (v.6) - The word *typos* means to "make an impression". "By the force of your life, leave your mark."
- **Application:** We all need people in our lives who will be spiritual examples to instruct us.
 - Living Examples: Mature people in the church
 - Dead Examples: Protestant Reformers, great preachers such as C.H. Spurgeon, etc.

THE EDUCATION (TITUS 2:8)

- "**in your teaching show integrity, dignity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned** (v.7-8)

Three Marks of Titus' Doctrinal Commitment:

1. *Sincere* ("**show integrity**"): This speaks of Titus' motives; integrity speaks of wholeness.
2. *Serious* ("**dignity**"): Titus was to have an attitude of reverence. A weightiness of life.

"Whatever you do, let the people see you are in good earnest. You cannot break men's hearts by jesting with them." (Richard Baxter)

3. *Sound* ("**sound speech**"): Titus' doctrine was to be exemplary, healthy.

THE EFFECT (TITUS 2:8)

- "**so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.**" (v.8)
- Titus' example was to silence the critics of the church (1 Pet 2:12).

Sermon Application Questions

July 28, 2019

REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

PERSONAL RESPONSES

1

Who are your spiritual examples? Name examples of living figures (e.g. those in the church) and dead figures (e.g. the Protestant Reformers, great preachers such as C.H. Spurgeon).

What have you learned from your spiritual examples? How can you be a better spiritual example to others?

2

Ponder the connection between the church's pursuit of sound doctrine and evangelistic impact. How does purity in doctrine (Titus 2:7-8) help guard the testimony of the church in the world (Titus 2:8)?

How can you grow in your understanding of sound doctrine?

DIGGING DEEPER

1

Take some time and reflect on some of the key passages related to this week's sermon. Ask the Lord for help in making application of these truths to your life.

1 Corinthians 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Philippians 3:17

Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.

1 Thessalonians 1:6-7

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

1 Timothy 4:12

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

1 Timothy 4:13-16

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

2 Timothy 2:15

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

1 Peter 2:12

Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

2

Read Psalm 119:17-32. In your own words, describe the characteristics of a believer who is in earnest about God’s Word. How would you evaluate your interactions with God’s Word in light of this Psalm?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1

C.H. Spurgeon said: ““Oh, that you and I might get into the very heart of the Word of God, and get that Word into ourselves! . . . it is blessed to eat into the very soul of the Bible until, at last, you come to talk in Scriptural language, and your very style is fashioned upon Scripture models, and, what is better still, your spirit is flavored with the words of the Lord.”

Pastor Philip exhorted us to be people who value the Bible, love the Bible, carry their Bibles, live their Bibles, study their Bibles, and honor the text of the Bible.

How might you grow this week in your reverence for the Word of God?

- Read the Bible.** Set a time and a place. Have a plan. Read as a believer who needs to be fed, not as an academic who merely wants to learn facts and figures.
- Listen to the Bible.** Make attendance at Sunday worship service a priority. Make it a discipline to be on time. Prayerfully hear the preaching of God’s Word. Take notes.
- Memorize the Bible.** Perhaps consider the use of a Bible memorization app to aid in your memory of specific passages of Scripture.
- Study the Bible.** Consider attendance at the many opportunities at the church to be involved in equipping classes that take you deeper into God’s Word.
- Minister the Bible.** Be one who is taught so that you can give it away to others.
- Read Books about the Bible.** Consider reading a good Christian biography, or a challenging work that will stretch your understanding of Scripture.
- My Application:** _____

2

We are reminded by this sermon about the power of spiritual example. “A Christian is someone who makes it easier to someone else to believe in Jesus Christ.”

Are you being a spiritual example to others in your life? Write out a prayer of devotion to the Lord asking him to make you into an example that others can follow.