



What was the worst piece of advice you have ever received from someone else? (keep it light ☺)

- What went wrong?
- How might things have gone differently?

As we study the book of Titus we see Paul's instructions to Titus on how to lead the churches in Crete and correct things that were negatively affecting the churches and their witness. He started by discussing the kind of elders that needed to be appointed in every town (**Titus 1:5-9**). Paul then pivoted to contrasting the behavior, attitudes and doctrine of false teachers (**Titus 1:10-16**) with godly elders, and explained how they (false teachers) should be dealt with. In chapter 2, Paul shifts to explain the importance of sound doctrine, and what needs to be taught to specific groups of people. Read **Titus 2:1-10** with your group.

DISCUSS

What stood out to you from the message this week?

What was the situation with the churches in Crete that prompted Paul to give these commands for teaching/living? (Think back over the past few weeks)

- Is there a danger that Christians today may fall into a similar trap?

As leaders at Bridge evaluate potential members, individuals are evaluated in the areas of what they believe (doctrine) and how they live. Leaders are evaluating people's life and doctrine to determine the genuineness of their profession of faith.

- Why not just their doctrine?
- Is one more important than the other?

Explain how doctrine guides living?

- Give examples of how your doctrine (beliefs) guide your living (decisions, structuring priorities, where you spend your time, money, etc.).

What is the danger of believers falling into the trap of seeing doctrine as primarily for mental reflection and debate?

What is Titus to teach the following groups...

- Older men
- Younger men
- Older women

What are the older women to instruct the younger women?

What are the potential outcomes of living lives that are above reproach, for ...

- Ourselves
- Unbelievers
- Believers

There are heavy implications that the older generation is called to have a positive impact on the younger generation's faith. With that in mind, what happens when sound doctrine and right living are absent in an older generation?

What attitude should young people have towards those who are older and demonstrate sound doctrine/right living?

When the church is functioning as God intends, what do relationships within look like?

REFLECT

Have you ever had the benefit of a more mature believer positively impacting your faith & life?

- How did that relationship come to be?
- What do you remember learning from that individual?

Do you realize that you are called to be an influence in the lives of the next generation?

- How does this realization affect or motivate you?
- Is there anyone younger in their faith that God might be asking you to have an impact upon?

What areas of your life or doctrine need to be strengthened to maximize that impact?

PRAYER FOCUS

- Provision for our church (finances, meeting place, etc.).
- Opportunities to shape the faith of the next generation.