



# Qualities of a Sound Church

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Titus 2:1-8

# Overview

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- Working Together:
  - + **John 17:21**
  - + Eph 2:19

*that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.*

- Being one is central to our success as a church
- Our relationships affect how others see us

# Overview

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- Working Together:

- + John 17:21

- + **Eph 2:19**

*Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God*

- We must encourage each other

# Overview

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- Working Together:
  - + John 17:21
  - + Eph 2:19
- Crete:
  - + **Titus 1:12**

*One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."*

- Push others out of their way for personal gain
- Focus on leisure
- Sound familiar?

# Overview

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- Working Together:
  - + John 17:21
  - + Eph 2:19
- Crete:
  - + Titus 1:12
- Contrasting People:
  - + **Titus 1:13 - 2:1**

*This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth. To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work. But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine:*

- Even the Jews needed to be rebuked
- Titus and the congregation must stand out

# Older Men (Titus 2:2)

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*that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience;*

# Older Men (Titus 2:2)

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- **Sober**
- Reverent
- Temperate
- Sound in Faith, Love, and Patience

## Meaning:

- not intoxicated
- Having a clear mind

*Be **sober**, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*

*-1 Peter 5:8*

- Counter-cultural



# Older Men (Titus 2:2)

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- Sober
- **Reverent**
- Temperate
- Sound in Faith, Love, and Patience

## Meaning:

- Honorable / good character
- Someone to be emulated

*Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is **honorable**, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.*

*-Phil 4:8 (ESV)*

# Older Men (Titus 2:2)

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- Sober
- Reverent
- **Temperate**
- Sound in Faith, Love, and Patience

## Meaning:

- Sound Mind
- Self-Controlled / Restrained

*And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...*

*-Rom 12:2*

# Older Men (Titus 2:2)

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- Sober
- Reverent
- Temperate
- **Sound in Faith, Love, and Patience**

## Meaning (Sound):

- Lit. - to be in good health
- Spiritual purity

*This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be **sound** in the faith*

*-Titus 1:13*

*Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you have been made **well**. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.”*

*-John 5:14*

- Sin is an illness worse than physical infirmities

# Older Men (Titus 2:2)

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- Sober
- Reverent
- Temperate
- **Sound in Faith, Love, and Patience**

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*

*-Gal 5:22-24*

- Older men are to be full of the fruit of the Spirit

# Older Women (Titus 2:3)

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*the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things*

# Older Women (Titus 2:3)

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- **Reverent in Behavior**
- Not Slanderers
- Not Given to Much Wine
- Teachers of Good Things

## Meaning:

- Honorable / good character
- Someone to be emulated

# Older Women (Titus 2:3)

- Reverent in Behavior
- **Not Slanderers**
- Not Given to Much Wine
- Teachers of Good Things

## Meaning:

- The devil
- To be of the devil

*You are of your father **the devil**, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.*

*-John 8:44*

- *Older women are to be the opposite of this*

# Older Women (Titus 2:3)

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- Reverent in Behavior
- Not Slanderers
- **Not Given to Much Wine**
- Teachers of Good Things

## Meaning (Given):

- Literally or figuratively enslaved

*Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.*

*-Prov 20:1*

- Allows the “roaring lion” to catch us (1 Pet 5:8)



# Older Women (Titus 2:3)

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- Reverent in Behavior
- Not Slanderers
- Not Given to Much Wine
- **Teachers of Good Things**

- Stronger emphasis for the women than men
- Transitions to what they are to teach

*She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness.*

*-Prov 31:26*

- Mentors

# Example to the Younger

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- **1 Tim 4:16**
- 2 Tim 1:5
- Phil 3:17
- Prov 20:7

*Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine.  
Continue in them, for in doing this you will save  
both yourself and those who hear you.*

- By improving ourselves we become better examples.

# Example to the Younger

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- 1 Tim 4:16
- **2 Tim 1:5**
- Phil 3:17
- Prov 20:7

*when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.*

- Not hereditary

# Example to the Younger

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- 1 Tim 4:16
- 2 Tim 1:5
- **Phil 3:17**
- Prov 20:7

*Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.*

- The mature must be a pattern for others.
- Reading vs. Seeing

# Example to the Younger

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- 1 Tim 4:16
- 2 Tim 1:5
- Phil 3:17
- **Prov 20:7**

*The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.*

- Righteous parents are a blessing
- Some must look to the church

## Young Women (Titus 2:4-5)

*that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.*

# Young Women (Titus 2:4-5)

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- **Love Their Husbands and Children**
- Be Discreet
- Chaste
- Homemakers, Good, Obedient to Their Husbands
- Word of God Not Blasphemed

## Meaning (Love):

- Fond of
- Committed relationship
- Typically used of close friends

*These things He said, and after that He said to them, “Our **friend** Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up.”*

*-John 11:11*



# Young Women (Titus 2:4-5)

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- Love Their Husbands and Children
- **Be Discreet**
- Chaste
- Homemakers, Good, Obedient to Their Husbands
- Word of God Not Blasphemed

## Meaning:

- Same as Temperate (Older Men)
- Sound Mind
- Self-Controlled / Restrained

# Young Women (Titus 2:4-5)

- Love Their Husbands and Children
- Be Discreet
- **Chaste**
- Homemakers, Good, Obedient to Their Husbands
- Word of God Not Blasphemed

## Meaning:

- Pure / Innocent
- Same root as holy
- Set apart from sin

*Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself **pure**.*

*-1 Tim 5:22*

# Young Women (Titus 2:4-5)

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- Love Their Husbands and Children
- Be Discreet
- Chaste
- **Homemakers, Good, Obedient to Their Husbands**
- Word of God Not Blasphemed

## Meaning (Homemaker):

- Implies a role of stewardship and care

*Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety.*

*-Prov 11:14*

- Should each generation start from scratch?

# Young Women (Titus 2:4-5)

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- Love Their Husbands and Children
  - Be Discreet
  - Chaste
  - Homemakers, Good, Obedient to Their Husbands
  - **Word of God Not Blasphemed**
- The reason this is important
  - Our actions and relationships reflect on God

## Young Men (Titus 2:6-8)

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*Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.*

# Young Men (Titus 2:6-8)

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- **Sober-Minded**
- Pattern of Good Works
- Integrity, Reverence, Incorruptibility
- Sound Speech
- Opponents May Be Ashamed

## Meaning:

- Similar to Sober (Older Men)
- Having a sound mind / self-controlled

# Young Men (Titus 2:6-8)

---

- Sober-Minded
- **Pattern of Good Works**
- Integrity, Reverence, Incorruptibility
- Sound Speech
- Opponents May Be Ashamed

## Meaning (Pattern):

- A die (for coins, etc.)
- A model
- An example to be imitated

*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them*

*-Eph 2:10*

- Created for a purpose

# Young Men (Titus 2:6-8)

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- Sober-Minded
- Pattern of Good Works
- **Integrity, Reverence, Incorruptibility**
- Sound Speech
- Opponents May Be Ashamed

## Meaning:

- All similar words
- Protected from outside influence

*He who walks with **integrity** walks securely, But he who perverts his ways will become known.*

*-Prov 10:9*

- Rejecting bad influences secures our character.



# Young Men (Titus 2:6-8)

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- Sober-Minded
- Pattern of Good Works
- Integrity, Reverence, Incorruptibility
- **Sound Speech**
- Opponents May Be Ashamed

- Contrasting the Cretan

*Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.*

*-Eph 4:29*

# Young Men (Titus 2:6-8)

---

- Sober-Minded
- Pattern of Good Works
- Integrity, Reverence, Incorruptibility
- Sound Speech
- **Opponents May Be Ashamed**

## Meaning (Ashamed):

- To turn
- A change in attitude / actions

# Follow Good Examples

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- **1 Cor 11:1**

- Heb 13:7

- 1 Tim 4:12

*Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*

- Younger Christians will find an example to follow.

# Follow Good Examples

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- 1 Cor 11:1

- **Heb 13:7**

- 1 Tim 4:12

*Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.*

- Younger Christians are responsible for seeking out the good examples.

# Follow Good Examples

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- 1 Cor 11:1
- Heb 13:7
- **1 Tim 4:12**

*Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.*

- Must also become an example to others
- Training the trainers

JESUS



PAUL



TITUS



OLDER MEMBERS



YOUNGER MEMBERS



THE WORLD

# Why?

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*For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.*

*Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.*

*-Titus 2:11-15*

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*

*-1 John 4:7*

- Does not eliminate personal accountability
- Knowing what to do is not enough



