



Women's R&R Bible Study 2024-2025

"YOUR WORDS WERE FOUND, AND I ATE THEM, AND YOUR WORD WAS TO ME THE JOY AND REJOICING OF MY HEART."

JEREMIAH 15:16

LIVING IN HOPE LESSON 20

We ended our lesson last week with Paul warning Titus about idle talkers and deceivers who professed to know God, but in works denied Him (Titus 1:10-16). Here in chapter 2, Paul draws a contrast between their behavior and the lifestyle that Titus should exhibit. Paul not only wants Titus to be an example to others, but he wants him to teach the body to do the same.

This is a great chapter, especially for us. Paul, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, deals with some specific areas of our lives as Christian women. He describes what is sometimes called the "Titus 2 woman," giving us some clear principles upon which to govern our lives. Let's listen up!

This chapter has been given some great titles by commentators: "The Lifestyle of a Christian," "Christian Character in Action," "How to Have a Healthy Church," "Making Christian Doctrine Attractive by Example," and "Advising Others." Obviously, this chapter is very practical and applicable for our lives today. Before you begin, spend time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart for the wonderful jewels He has in store for you this week!

Memory Verse of the Week: "...in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works, in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned..." Titus 2:7-8a

1. Read Titus 2:1-15. What do you think is the main thought of this chapter? What is the key verse? Are there any repeated words, thoughts, or phrases?

Chapter 1 dealt with the reason to protect sound doctrine, and chapter 2 exhorts the church to practice sound doctrine. Paul now instructs Titus on what to teach to the members of his church. The false teachers were teaching lies, but he was called to teach those things that are healthy and fitting for sound doctrine. Wiersbe said, “What germs are to a physical body, false teaching is to a spiritual body, the church.”

2. What does Paul mean by the phrase “proper for sound doctrine”?
3. Paul gives Titus instructions on how to teach various age groups, gender, or occupations. What does this tell us?

The word “sober” in verse 2 means “to be temperate or self-controlled, especially in the use of wine.” “Reverent” means “serious” or “dignified.” “Temperate” describes a man who is prudent and exercises self-control over all things in his life.

4. Paul tells the older men to be healthy in three things. What does it mean to be healthy in:
 - A. Faith?
 - B. Love?
 - C. Patience?
5. If an older man is healthy and mature in faith, love, and patience, how can that be an encouragement to a younger man?

Years should teach us to trust God more, not less. The experiences we go through in life should make our faith stronger. Love for God and others should abound more and more as we grow closer to Him. Our tolerance and patience with others should increase. Years of experience should teach us to sympathize with the mistakes of others and make us willing and able to bear more and more.

6. Do people always grow in their faith, love, and patience as they get older? Why or why not? What can happen as we age?

7. Even though these instructions were given to the older men, we would be wise to take heed. **As you get older, what's happening to YOUR faith? YOUR love? YOUR patience?**
8. Paul begins his exhortation to the older women with the word "likewise." What does that infer?
9. What does "reverent in behavior" mean?
10. What is slander? What do the following Scriptures say about it?
 - a. Psalm 52:2-4
 - b. Proverbs 10:18
 - c. Proverbs 16:27-30
 - d. Ephesians 4:31
11. Why is it so important for older women to guard against slander? What damage can be done? (How should years teach them to know better?)
12. Older women are supposed to be "teachers of good things." Why can young ladies learn so much more from older women on specific issues?
13. What are the "good things" they are supposed to be teaching?
14. What does Paul say is the primary responsibility of the younger women?

Wiersbe writes, “The Christian home was a totally new thing, and young women saved out of paganism would have to get accustomed to a whole new set of priorities and privileges.” It has also been noted that the greatest priority in the home is love. Paul says the older women should teach them how to love their families, and how to live godly lives.

15. Time to peek at our priorities. If you’re married, is loving your husband and your children your priority? Have other “things” been getting in the way? Are there any changes that need to be made?

16. What does it mean to be “discreet” and “chaste”?

17. “Good” can be translated “kind.” Read Proverbs 31:26. Does this describe you?

Being a homemaker simply means to care for the home, or guide the house, so to speak. Her home is her first ministry.

18. As an older woman (you are ALL older than someone), are you being a “teacher of good things”? Is there someone specific that you can come alongside of that may need some help and guidance?

Who is mentoring our young girls and teenagers? Who are their role models? Who is teaching them how to live their life? Ladies, that’s our job. Paul instructs Titus to teach the older women to do it. That’s you and me! The younger women are called to listen and glean all they can from the experience of the older women. Are you doing that? Do you have a teachable spirit and an open heart to learn all you can?

Wow, what a section! We could spend all week just on these verses. Let’s take them to heart, ladies. They were written specifically for you and me. Let’s teach, and let’s be taught.

19. Why is the instruction for young men summed up in one statement?

20. What kinds of dangers or temptations do young men face?

I thought what William Barclay wrote about this was interesting: “In youth the blood runs hotter and the passions speak more commandingly. The tide of life runs strongest in youth and sometimes threatens to sweep a young person away. In youth, there are more opportunities for going wrong. Young people are thrown into the company where temptation can speak with a most compelling voice. There are more opportunities to make shipwreck of life. In youth there is often that confidence which comes from lack of experience. In almost every sphere of life a younger person will be more reckless than his elders, for the simple reason that he has not yet discovered all the things which can go wrong. For that reason, the first thing at which any young person must aim is self-discipline and self-control. “He who rules his spirit is greater than he who takes a city” (Proverbs 16:32).

21. Do you exercise self-control and self-discipline? What areas do you need work on in this category?

22. If you have teenagers, are you training them in this virtue? Name some ways that we can teach our kids to exercise self-control.

Paul now tells Titus that his life needs to demonstrate the things that he’s teaching. His life would be the best witnessing tool. Titus needed to make sure he was putting into practice and applying all these truths to himself.

23. Define:

- a. integrity:
- b. reverence:
- c. incorruptibility:
- d. sound speech:

The word “**pattern**” comes from the Greek word “*tupos*.” This is where we get our English word “*type*.” This word originally meant “an impression made by a die.” His life should be one that makes a lasting impression on others.

24. Explain in a practical way what it means to live a life of integrity. How are Christians who have no integrity one of the biggest stumbling blocks to the unbelieving world?
25. What kind of impression is your life making on those around you? How are you affecting your friends, your family, and your co-workers?

When I think of a pattern, I think of the kinds that are used when sewing a dress. You lay the pattern down and cut the fabric to match (at least I think so). Think of our life as that type of pattern. If you laid it out, would you want others to follow the pattern of your life? Are there any “pattern changes” that need to be made?

26. Paul tells Titus to exhort servants in verses 9-10. List the things he says **TO** do, and then the things **NOT** to do.

In the early church, many slaves were getting saved, and they were bound to unbelieving masters. Paul is reminding them that the witness of their life may be the thing God uses to win their master to Christ. How important it was for them to be obedient, not answer back, not pilfering (stealing), but living with integrity. Paul didn’t want them to revolt, but to submit! Someone said that it “was the task of the workman to show the master what a Christian could be.”

27. What does it mean to “adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things”?

“Adorn” is from the Greek word “kosmeo,” meaning to “put in proper order.” Irving Jensen says that “an illustration is the arrangement of jewels in such a manner as to show forth their full beauty. By godly living, Christians can add luster to the doctrine of God our Savior.” Workers are encouraged to work in good faith so they will make the teachings about our Lord attractive in every way.

28. How does living faithfully “beautify the Bible,” or make the Christian message attractive to unbelievers?

29. You know I have to ask this question! Does your life “beautify the Bible,” or make the things of God look attractive?

30. In your own words, summarize verses 11-15.

Verse 13 reminds us to look forward to the return of Christ, which is our hope! This is the motivating factor to do all that Paul is exhorting us to do. He also boldly declares that Jesus Christ is God.

31. Does Paul say that Jesus “was killed”? What does he say? Why is this significant?

The word **“special”** better translates as **“peculiar.”** It means “one’s own possession.” We are God’s peculiar people. Not because we’re weird, but because we belong to Him, we’re His own possession. In 1 Peter 2:9, Peter calls us a “chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own peculiar people ...” Did you know that you’re peculiar?

32. What are His “peculiar” people supposed to be zealous for? Why?

We know that we are saved by God's grace. Jesus paid the penalty for our sins by willfully dying on the cross. We were slaves of sin, and His death on the cross redeemed us, or set us free from the bondage of sin. No longer does sin have to control us. The grace that saved us also gives us the ability to live godly today. His grace is purifying us and conforming us into His image (Romans 8:29). This is called the sanctification process, where we are separating ourselves from sin while devoting ourselves to God. We will be rewarded when we meet Him face to face at His appearing!

33. As a Christian, have you ever felt “peculiar” in the sense of just feeling very different? Sometimes we do feel like we just don’t “fit.” Is that okay? Explain the difference between living **IN** this world, and living **FOR** this world.

34. What is Paul's final exhortation to Titus?

In verse 15, “speak” may be translated as “proclaim” or “teach.” Paul again reminds Titus, as he did Timothy, that his role as an elder was to teach or proclaim the Word, exhort and encourage the church, and rebuke or call to conviction the body when needed. The pastor should be willing to exercise his authority, according to the will of God.

Charles Swindoll said that “Jesus saved us, not only so we could belong to Him, but also so we would live like we belong to Him.” As Paul shares these instructions for living with Titus, we notice that no matter where we live or how old we are, we are called to be “set apart” from this world. We never have an excuse to live in rebellion or walk according to the flesh (Galatians 5:16).

Next week we will finish up our very last lesson in the book of Titus. Paul concludes his letter to Titus with a wallop, as usual. But for now, take a few minutes and write a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord for saving you, for redeeming you, and for sanctifying you. May God bless you as you seek to know Him by studying His Word.

