

## **“LET THE MEN BE MEN”**

### Titus 2:2, 6-7

If it were given to you to describe the ultimate male, and write Proverbs 32, what would you say? Break up into groups come up with a creative way to frame a portrait of God's man:

Now it's time to see how close you are. The question is whether our description of what a man is and should be matches the Word of God, and then whether our lives are measured by the right yardstick, which comes clearly through in the book of Titus.

What is the theme of the book **Titus**?

Who were the “Cretans?”

According to **2:1**, what is the command to Titus?

What are the “**doctrines**” that Paul mentions that Titus should speak in the context?

What does Paul speak about instead of “**doctrine?**” What is the connection between the two?

What are the references to doctrine or the Word of God in **Titus 2** in v. **5, 7, 10** and how do they relate to the previous question?

If the theme of Titus is *God is Savior*, then how does **chapter 2** fit into this theme?

How does Paul's statement in **1:16** strengthen your understanding of this concept?

In this passage, Paul describes the character of older men and younger men, older women and younger women. What relationship are these groups to have with one another (**v. 4** is a clue)?

The following traits speak to us as men so that we can be what God has called us to be. As you consider what the individual qualities are from **v. 2, and 6-8**, also answer what this looks like practically, in your walk with God, your control over your passions, your relationship with your family, and your witness in the world:

### **1. LET THE OLDER MEN BE MEN**

What, according to Paul constitutes an older person vs. a younger person (1 Tim. 5:9)?

- “Temperate”** -
  
- “Dignified”** -
  
- “Sensible”** -
  
- “Sound in faith”** -
  
- “[Sound] in love”**

- “[Sound] in perseverance”

What do these qualities have in common with one another?

What are some wrong responses to studying this list, as a man?

## 2. LET THE YOUNG MEN BE MEN

Now Paul turns to list what the younger men should be:

- “Sensible” -

Where have you seen this quality before?

Why do you think that Paul lists only one quality for younger men, before moving to a personal address to Titus? Does it mean that younger men (under 60) should not strive in the areas listed for older men? What is Paul doing?

What does this say about how all-encompassing being sensible is for the Christian?

What does this say about the narrow focus that a Christian man should have in his life?

Paul uses this word only in the book of Titus (5 times total, 4 in chapter 2 alone). Why would this be appropriate, not only for men in general, but for Cretan men, to whom Titus is ministering?

### 3. LET THE LEADERS BE MEN

Finally, Titus is exhorted personally by Paul. Why do you think that Paul did not just refer Titus to **chapter 1** as to his responsibility as an Elder when speaking about the character of a leader?

Compare these qualities of with **Titus 1** and put a check in the box next to those qualities that appear for an Elder also:

- “In all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds” -**
  
- “With purity in doctrine” -**
  
- “Dignified” -**
  
- “Sound in speech which is beyond reproach” -**

Why do you think Paul chose to specify these directly to Titus as a leader?

What if you are not a leader – do these qualities apply to you as something to pursue?  
Why or why not?

Why would these qualities be essential for anyone in any capacity of leadership, whether in the church or home, etc.?

If Titus is faithful to implement these character qualities, what does the end of v. **8** say will be the result?

**TRUTH IN THE LIFE**

1. As you consider your response to these truths, what are the two top qualities that stand out to you, which need the most work?
  
2. In your answer to question #1, where would your spiritual life benefit most from applying these changes: in your walk with God, your control over your passions, your relationship with your family, and your witness in the world?
  
3. Who is a more spiritually mature believer that exemplifies these qualities, whom you could spend more time with in learning how to grow in these areas? Write the name of that person below:
  
4. Plan an interview with that person and ask then specifically how he has worked to develop patterns of righteousness in his life.
  
5. Choose one man from this room with whom you will share your answers to the previous four questions and who you will call in two weeks to update your progress of growth. Write that information below:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_