

Warm-up Questions

Choose one and discuss as a group.

1. Play the game of stacking blocks (like Jenga). After a round or two, discuss:
 - How can personal conduct be like this game?
2. Play a few rounds of “this or that” where you ask the group a “this or that” question (list of “this/that” questions provided at the end of this curriculum), and the group votes. After a few rounds, discuss:
 - What do are some matters of conduct that we handle like “This or that” questions like matters of preference rather than matters of right or wrong?

Engage God’s Word

- *Invite each person to open their Bible to Titus 2*
- *As people turn to Titus 2, invite people to reflect and share about someone in their life who helped change their mind or way of thinking about something important, whether it was the gospel or a job skill or a way to parent or relate to someone challenging...and how that help made a positive difference made in their life.*

Lead a time of prayer, thanking God for kind people who love us enough to correct us and show us a better way. As your group studies this passage, invite the Holy Spirit to encourage you to be the same type of helpers to others even as the Holy Spirit continues to help you walk in obedience, through grace and truth.

Share brief review of the previous 10 verses to provide context:

- In the opening chapter of his letter, Paul had instructed Titus to appoint spiritually mature believers into roles of servant leadership in the church at Crete.
- Paul had acknowledged the challenge facing Titus because of Cretan culture was notoriously (socially) unhealthy.
- In the second chapter, Paul shifted his focus to Titus personally, challenging him to teach good, pure doctrine that is applicable to males and females alike of all ages.
- In these last verses of chapter 2, Paul explains the availability of sound doctrine and the transformational power behind living in accordance with this good doctrine.

Read Titus 2:11-15

Discuss God’s Word

1. How do you define the word “doctrine?”
2. When you think of just the word “doctrine,” does it tend to have a positive or negative association? Why?

A doctrine is simple a set of beliefs. Doctrines exist in churches and religions, but also in politics, in civic structures, and even in cultures (both formally and informally)

3. What are some doctrines you see outside of church that are observed or followed?
4. How are some societal or cultural doctrines unhelpful or even dangerous?

Applying God's Truth

1. Why do you think the accomplished work of Jesus (v. 11) is important to the call to live according to godly doctrines?

In v. 12-13, Paul lists 3 parts to aligning under godly doctrines – training, living, and waiting.

2. What has it looked like in your life to train renouncing ungodliness and worldly passions? How have you and others benefited from that training?
3. What does it look like to live an upright, self-controlled and godly life in this present age? When is it most difficult to live this way? What helps you be more consistent with living this way?
4. What role do you think waiting (v. 13) toward your ability to more successfully train and live? Why do you think v. 14 is so important to understand about your waiting? How do you think your waiting would be different if you didn't have the promise of v. 14 given as the focus of your waiting?
5. What stands out to you about verse 15? What parts of this exhortation do you do well? Where can you improve?