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Scripture of the Week

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

- Romans 10:17

I have completed my Bible studies for the following	days
Lord's Day & Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday & Saturday	
Signature	

Daily Bible Studies
November 24-30, 2013
"What Christian Men
Are To Be"
Titus 2:1-2, 6-8



12

The Lord's Day and Monday

This week's reading comes from Titus 2:1-2, 6-8.

As we continue our study of Paul's epistle to Titus, we come to chapter two. In the second chapter, Paul told Titus to teach different types of people in the church: older men, older women, younger men, younger women, and slaves.

Titus was commanded by Paul to "speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine." Unlike the false teachers that we learned about last week, Titus was to be a man of integrity. His actions and words were to be consistent with each other.

Don't miss the big point though! The false teachers were allowing and encouraging the people of the church to engage in behavior that was not consistent or in agreement with sound doctrine. Paul was telling Titus, "These false teachers are pointing the people in every wrong direction. They are behaving very badly and the people are going to follow their example. You, Titus, need to speak to the people and tell them what proper Christian behavior is and be careful to set a good example for them."

"But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: ² that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience;... ⁶ Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, ⁷ in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, ⁸ sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you."

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Wr stu	ite down three things you learned from this week's dy:
1.	
2.	
3.	

Suggestion for Prayer

Lord Jesus, you alone were sinless and perfect. Make me like you. May I reflect you to this world, so that when others try to reproach your Gospel, they will be shamed and turn to you. Amen

Pray for the Lord's Day Service

- 1. Pray that everyone would think it is important to come and be able to come.
- 2. Pray for Sunday School and Pastor Tim's sermon.
- 3. Pray that we would encourage each other to love the Lord Jesus.

<u>Friday</u>

The final reading for the week is 2:7-8.

What a glorious way to close our week of study! Paul is now placing all of his attention on Titus. Remember, Titus, like Timothy, was Paul's true son in the faith. Paul told both men what they were to teach and now he tells Titus, just as he told Timothy, that he is to stand as a godly man in the midst of ungodliness. The power and glory of God is present in these verses as Paul tells Titus to truly reflect God's image before the people of Crete.

Titus is told to set a pattern of good works. He is to be the "older man" that sets the example for the younger men. His teaching is to have integrity, reverence, and incorruptibility. When Satan and the false teachers try to twist and distort the truth, Titus is to be unbending. When they try to erode and destroy it, Titus is to maintain and strengthen it.

His speech and words are to be good and pure so that no one can say evil things about him, the Gospel, the Church, or the Lord. In short, Titus is called to be so Christ-like that when the enemies of the Gospel attack they find themselves fighting against an invincible iron man. They can try to condemn the Lord and his people, but they will not. On the contrary, they will be ashamed. They will realize that they are attacking what is good and right, lay down their weapons, and surrender. This is the power of God. He makes his enemies his friends and he does it through his people.

What about you? The Lord calls you to follow Titus' example, too. Live a godly life. Look to the Lord Jesus who truly was sinless and pray that you may be like Him and represent Him. May your enemies examine your life, be shamed, turn to Jesus, and be converted. Amen.

Monday Quiz

T or F

- 1.) It is more important to have influence than integrity.
- 2.) It doesn't matter what spiritual
 direction you are going as long as you follow
 a leader.

 T or F
- 3.) One should not only tell the truth
 but have Christian behavior as well.

 T or F

Suggestion for Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Help me to learn from your Word this week. Show me the importance of not only knowing the truth, but also living a godly life. Amen.

Pray for Family

- 1. Dad and Mom
- 2. Brothers and Sisters
- 3. Grandparents, Uncles and Aunts, Cousins

Tuesday

Today's text is Titus 2:1-2.

The first group of people that is addressed is that of the older men. So the first question we ask is, "How old do you have to be before you are old?" Maybe 50, maybe 60. Different people would have different opinions about that, but wouldn't everyone agree that an old man is a man who has lived many years and who has great experience? You might be saying, "Some of the old people I know are living in the past, they're cranky, and they're crazy." That might or might not be true, but make sure that you are respectful anyway and realize that crankiness and craziness are not normal for an older Christian man.

An older Christian man is marked by dignity and maturity. Let's look at those things in more detail.

- Sober—An older man is to be in control of his desires. He does not go to
 extremes, but he does everything in just the right amounts. The right
 amount of sleep, the right amount of eating, the right amount of playing.
- 2. **Reverent**—He should be respectable, or worthy of respect. He shouldn't be constantly goofing around and making a joke about everything. He knows that living life is serious business and he is aware of the most serious matter which is our relationship to God. He knows there is a time to laugh, but he also knows there is a time to stop laughing.
- 3. **Temperate** A temperate man makes wise decisions. The things he says and does are all carefully measured and weighed to determine if they are in agreement with God. He demonstrates self-control and patience.
- 4. Sound in faith—This means that older men are to have a healthy, strong faith instead of a sickly, weak, and wimpy faith. You may be wondering, "What does that mean...to have healthy faith?" It means that you really trust and believe God. You don't just say you trust God. You really do. Remember, when Paul found himself in the middle of a giant storm at sea in Acts 27? An angel came to him at night and told him that he would reach his destination. Did Paul doubt the message from God? No, he didn't. He went to the sailors of the ship and said, "Cheer up guys, God told me we will survive. It may look like we are all going to die any

Thursday Quiz

Read Psalm 1. What does the blessed man think about and find his delight in?

Read Jeremiah 6:16. What kind of ways does God want you find? What will you have when you find them?

Read 2nd Corinthians 5:14. What controlled, compelled, and constrained Paul's life?

Suggestion for Prayer

Dear Lord, help me to read and study your Word so that I may think about it and grow. Teach me to pray as you did your disciples. As I grow older, let my steps be guided by your Word and its truth. I desire to obey and love you above all else. Amen

Pray for All Men

- 1. Kathy Mackay—Director of Cattaraugus County Office for the Aging
- 2. Greg Olsen—Director of NYS Office for the Aging
- 3. Kathy Greenlee—United States Administrator for Community Living

Thursday

Please read Titus 2:6.

Today, Paul turns his attention to the younger men. What is a young man? Again, the Bible does not give us specific ages, but we can have a good idea. The Apostle John wrote to little children, young men, and fathers. I think we can follow that kind of outline and say that you are either a little kid or you are an old man. If you are not a little kid or an old man, then you are a young man. My personal opinion would be that a young man is anywhere from 7 years old to 60.

So what are you to do as a young man? You are to be sober-minded. You should think clearly and seriously and make wise decisions. You should outgrow silliness and carelessness by the time you are a young man. It is time to put away childish things, to stop thinking like a child, and to think like a godly man.

How do we think like a godly man does? We must think about and study the Word of God. We must pray and spend time with our Lord, Jesus.

You must fill your mind with the Word of God otherwise it will be filled with thoughts that the ungodly world plants there. Make sure you plant good things in the garden of your mind and weed out bad things when they pop up.

Finally today, the Bible instructs us to be sober-minded in *all* things. A young man should have self-control and self-discipline. He lets the word of God and love of God constrain, or restrict, him. The way that he should take is obvious to him, because he thinks about the Bible and the Bible makes the path plain to him. When he steps to the right, the Bible stops him. When he steps to the left, the Bible stops him. When he is reading and obeying the Bible, he only has one choice which is to continue on straight ahead toward God.

minute here, but there is no need to worry at all." An older Christian man is supposed to trust God just like that.

Sound in love—The old man must have healthy faith and healthy love. He should not be cold and heartless, uncaring. Neither should he be sappy and overly sweet saying nice things to everyone at all times. He needs to truly love people. When the old man sees a person doing something foolish, he will love that person by warning them and stopping them. He doesn't always give people what they want, because sometimes what people want is something that will really hurt them.

Sound in patience—Finally, he is a man who is not defeated by life. He does not get knocked out. He continues on, believing God, even when life is landing knockout punches. Is it because he is so strong? No, it is because he stands on and hides in the Rock, the Lord Jesus. The changing circumstances of life will not change the old man, because he knows that Jesus remains unchanged and that Jesus is good.

Suggestion for Prayer

Lord, Thank you for your Word. Help me to develop the godly character traits that I learned about today. Please put godly, older men in my life so that I may glean from their wisdom and experience. Amen.

Pray for the Church

- 1. Mrs. Judy Mahnk
- 2. Mr. Doug Sampson
- 3. Rick, Jill, Ricky, and Tessa Stefanone

Wednesday

Let's look at Titus 2:2 today.

The older men have a very high standard to meet don't they? Have you thought about why that is? Shouldn't we all strive to be godly? Why is Paul so concerned that the older men be godly, if all of us are supposed to be godly? One answer is that we all will look up to older people. We realize that they have seen and done many things that we have not, so we expect that we can learn something by watching them and by listening to them. But what happens if the older men are not godly men? The answer is that we will learn bad things from them instead of good things. The older men must be very careful to be godly because they act as our examples and role models. They should live such godly lives that we say, "Wow, I want to be like them."

By the way, do you really admire godly people and want to live a godly life? Do you want to be a godly example and inspiration to someone else like a younger brother, sister, or friend? If you don't, you have a serious spiritual problem that you need to look into. On the other hand, if you do want to live a godly life and be an example to others, praise the Lord! Nurture and protect that desire so that you still have it when you are old. Like a tiny fire, keep the wind from blowing it out. Protect it. Put more wood on it.

Remember Timothy. His mother and grandmother taught him the things of God as a young boy and Paul told him, "Fan that flame boy! Get that fire roaring!" (2nd Tim. 1:6) It is a precious gift to know the true and living God. Please don't take it for granted.

<u>Wednesday Quiz</u>						
What does 1st Timothy 4:12 teach young people?						
Fill in the blanks.						
Deuteronomy 4:9 "Only take heed to yourself, and diligently, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren"						
Proverbs 4:4 "He also taught me, and said to me: 'Let your retain my words; my commands, and live.						
Proverbs 4:21 "Do not let them depart from your eyes;them in the midst of your"						
Luke 8:15 "But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good,						

Suggestion for Prayer

Father, help me nurture the desire to live godly before you. Give me strength to stand for you even when I am young. Thank you for your Holy Spirit. Amen

Pray for Missionaries

Cory Fehr and Family:

Mr. Fehr works with Word of Life ministries, but he believes that God may be calling him to become the pastor of a local church. Please pray for him, his wife, and daughters that the Lord would lead them. Please continue to pray for their health.