

Young People: Daring to be Different **Titus 2:4-8**

Introduction:

1. Paul left Titus on the island of Crete to help the struggling churches of Crete. How was Titus to help these churches?
 - First, Paul addressed the role of leadership. Chapter 1
 - Second, Paul addressed the role of the mature saints. 2:1-3
2. Who is best qualified to provide an example for younger men in the Lord? Older men in the Lord.
3. Who is best qualified to teach young women in the Lord? Older women in the Lord.
4. This is the idea of the text before us. The mature saints are supposed to be setting a godly example for the younger saints, and the younger saints are supposed to be following it.
5. Young people desperately need these mature, godly role models if they are to understand how their Christian life is to function in this wicked world. They must be taught sound doctrine (a solid belief system) to base their life upon. 2:1
6. If you are a young lady or a young man, this is God's Word to you.
 - Do not blow it off or take it lightly. This is how you demonstrate the grace of God.
 - You beautify the Word of God and the gospel of grace when your life reflects the teachings of these verses. 2:10
 - God, give us young people in the church who dare to be different than what the world tells them they should be.

How do young women demonstrate the grace of God? vs. 4-5

1. **Sober and discreet** - They think Biblically, which results in sound judgment. Their thinking is in line with what they are learning from the godly examples of older women in the Lord, not Cosmopolitan, Vanity Fair, or Britney Spears.
2. **Love their husbands** -
 - In Genesis 2:18-24, the woman's creation by God both exposed a great need within man and at the same time met it.
 - There was a weakness and need in man, and God created Eve to meet that need. Only a woman could meet that need.
 - Ladies, without your love, focus, attention, and encouragement, your husband will have glaring gaps in his life. He needs your love more than you'll ever know.
 - A woman's unconditional love and support is energizing to any man. Quite frankly, many times it is the difference-maker. A woman can make or break her husband.
 - You love him by just being there for him (available - giving him time, energy, and priority, providing thought and creativity to building him up, keeping him accountable when he gets off track or drifts).
3. **Love their children** - Young ones need tremendous doses of personal attention, support, and love. Children need **training (Proverbs 22:6)** and **time (Proverbs 29:15)**.
 - Healthy, normal child development requires a close, loving relationship with at least one person during the formative years. Titus 2 teaches the mother **should** provide that.

- Young ladies, career opportunities will always be there, but your children only grow up once. Can you afford to forgo that once-in-a-lifetime investment?
4. **Chaste** - They are examples of purity to their husbands and children. You protect your home from the world's trash and garbage that could corrupt it. You are a spiritual thermostat for your home.
 5. **Keepers at home** - They diligently keep the home operating and functioning properly. **1 Timothy 5:14** says that you guide the house. **cf. Proverbs 31:27**
 6. **Good** - Her husband knows he can trust her. **Proverbs 31:10-12**
 7. **Obedient to their own husbands** - God has given husbands the responsibility to be the spiritual leaders of their homes.
 - This doesn't mean that he can boss you around and you have to be his door-mat. A godly woman is a strong woman. **Proverbs 31:16-17, 25**
 - This simply means that she allows him to lead and fulfill that God-given role (she would never demean him publicly, compare him with other men, or disrespect him in front of the children).
 8. As young ladies demonstrate the grace of God, they bring honor to God and His Word, but when their lives reflect worldly culture, they cause God's Word to be ridiculed and blasphemed. **Proverbs 31:28-30**
 9. Young ladies, will you dare to be different and honor God with your life?

How do young men demonstrate the grace of God?

1. **Sober minded** - They are serious about God and His Word and this attitude results in making good, sound judgments (they've got their head screwed on straight).
2. **A pattern of good works** - Their lives are examples that others can look at and follow - but not just at church, in all things (home, college, school, work). This is called integrity.
 - The young ladies have no trouble following their leadership because these men have earned their respect.
3. **In doctrine shewing uncorruptness ...** - They are men of the Word. They have a solid belief system in their life because they study God's Word and have a teachable spirit (1:9) to learn spiritual truth.
4. **Sound speech** - When they talk, they are truthful and minister grace. **Ephesians 4:15, 29**
 - Others may not like **what** they say, but they can't deny the truth of it or the love in which it was spoken.
5. When young men demonstrate the grace of God in this way, their wives and children have no problem following their leadership.

In Conclusion:

1. What a blessing it is to see young people who are living demonstrations of the grace of God. They are serious about the Lord and it shows. They dare to be different, refusing to fit in the world's mold.
2. How do the aged men and women have such spiritual maturity, as detailed in verses 2 & 3? Because they began building these things into their lives as young people.

3. Young people, if you are to have that aged, spiritually mature status one day (and be an example and help to others), you must begin growing in His grace now! If not, you will simply end up a spiritually immature old person - an old, over-grown baby.

"I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one."

1 John 2:14b