



## A Cultured Church

### Titus 2:1-10

November 21, 2021

Pastor Mickey Klink

#### Introduction

In this text God directs our church to create a culture that reflects the family of God and does the work of God.

#### The Text: Titus 2:1-10

*<sup>1</sup> But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. <sup>2</sup> Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. <sup>3</sup> Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, <sup>4</sup> and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, <sup>5</sup> to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. <sup>6</sup> Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. <sup>7</sup> Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, <sup>8</sup> and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. <sup>9</sup> Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, <sup>10</sup> not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.*

#### Paul commands that the church and its leaders should work to establish “a cultured church.”

- a) A healthy church culture works hard to think biblically about everything (v. 1).
- b) A healthy church culture is blessed by the character and relies on the ministry of its older saints (vv. 2-3).
- c) A healthy church culture seeks to raise up disciples who are young in the faith and in age (vv. 4-10).
- d) The church culture of Hope Church – our visional goals.

##### A Shepherding Church – Heart

Forge a church culture of one-another-ness that involves postures and practices of familial love and respect, personal care, and spiritual intentionality (Eph 4:11-12, Jn 13:34-35).

##### A Catechizing Church – Head

Restore the church’s ancient practices of the life of the mind by raising up disciples who know God’s Word and can connect it to God’s world (Deut. 6:4-9; Matt 28:18-20).

##### A Neighbor-Loving Church – Hands

Empower the church’s participation in the mission of God in the world by extending God’s common and special grace to those with whom we live and work (Mark 12:28-34; Lk 10:25-37).

##### A Reproducing Church – Harvest

Develop the church’s reproducing nature by strategically raising up disciples, ministry workers, church leaders, and even new churches for the work of gospel ministry (Matt. 9:37-38; Eph 4:11-12).

#### Response

May the Lord cultivate among us a people that reflect the heart, head, hands, and harvest of Christ.

## Small Group Questions

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- 1) Starter Question: How would you explain the “culture” of your workplace, school, or family?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) What does Paul mean when he commands Titus to “teach what accords with sound doctrine” (v. 1), and how should a church obey this command?
- 4) What are Paul’s expectations of the older Christian men and women in the church in vv. 2-3?
- 5) How would the ministerial presence of older saints with that quality of character bless a local church and its culture and ministry?
- 6) What does Paul expect the older saints to do for the younger saints in the faith or in age in vv. 4-8?
- 7) In what ways is this kind of training and mentoring between older and younger saints happening in our church, and how can we create a culture where it happens more regularly and organically?
- 8) What is Paul saying to bondservants (slaves) in vv. 9-10, and how does it relate to what he was discussing in the earlier verses?
- 9) How would you describe the “culture” of Hope Evangelical Free Church?
- 10) How can you help create and facilitate a more biblically faithful church culture at Hope Church?

**Further study this week:** Passages on mentoring: 2 Timothy 2:2 (Mon); Proverbs 27:17 (Tues); Proverbs 22:6 (Wed); Psalm 71:18 (Thurs); Hebrews 13:7 (Fri).