



At every stage and station of life, Christian character and practice must reflect the effectiveness of the **gospel**.

The ideas of a life worthy of respect and a life that is self-controlled are woven through **each** of these categories in chapter 2.

Verses 4-5 – The “younger women”

Being self controlled and pure – **sensible**, clear thinking about the details of life in regard to their actions and the desire behind them; guarding eyes and ears and thoughts from that which would tend toward **compromise**

To be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands –

The term Paul uses does not require a woman to work **only** at home, but it does state that she does have duties at home.

We must guard against **imposing** our own cultural practices into this 1st century world.

Submission:

- 1) It is everywhere the assumption or explicit teaching of God's **Word**.
- 2) It is required in one way or another of **every** Christian.
- 3) In God's Word it does not imply inequality or a lesser **value**.
- 4) The Bible has a great deal to say about the duties of men and husbands that lay them under the strictest obligations to make this
- 5) Submission a **happy** thing for their wives and not a burden.

The motivation given in verse 5 beckons back to a life worthy of **respect** – a life that reflects the power of what we believe: the effectiveness of the gospel.

Verse 6 - The “younger men”

The verb “**encourage**” is the first time in this passage that Paul has used the **imperative** in Greek – the language of command.

Self-control – *sophron* – **self-mastery**, balance, to get their faculties and appetites, their longings and desires into hand, to develop discernment and judgment.

2 Timothy 2:22; 1 Peter 5:5

Everything needs to come under control because to let one area go leads to and will leak over into others.

Verses 7-8 – Titus to the “younger men”

This is a setting of pace, of character, of spiritual **devotion** that Titus couldn't set in the same way for older men, much less for the women.

Verses 9-10- The “slaves”

Against the hopelessness of this bondage system, the Christian slave's devotion to the gospel and resulting behavior would make the ultimate **freedom** that is only found in Christ attractive in an unparalleled way.

Colossians 3:23-24

A safe extrapolation from Titus 2:9-10 is the idea that God cares about what you do on the job because that's your **mission** field. If you are a Christian, you are demonstrating Christ.

Younger women, does your attitude and the priority of the God-given roles you play in the home bring **honor** to the Word of God in a culture where those things are often de-prioritized?

Is your life marked by a self-control and purity that protects you from **compromise** in even the smallest area?

Younger men, is your life increasingly characterized by **self control**? Are you driven by your desires, the culture, or the **truth** of the gospel by which you are saved?

Employees, does your work ethic look like everyone else's or worse, so that no one values having a **Christian** employee or does your working unto Christ whatever you do shock people into wanting more workers like you?

Two foundational aspects of God's blueprint:

- 1) **The quality of self control** – God wants all of us at every age and every stage in every situation to exercise the freedom of **choice** that is ours by the redemptive grace of Jesus Christ.
- 2) **A life worthy of respect** (v 5, 8, 10) – God lays out these categories and commands so that we as His people might know that we are to live lives that are **worthy** of respect.