



Verse 1

Titus is to bring the churches on the island of Crete up to a standard of virtue, of quality, of **character** that fits God's **blueprint** for His church.

Paul is telling Titus to keep on **talking** about the things they need to do that **fit** the doctrine they believe. It calls for **living** that is in complete accord with the truth.

The Bible teaches that godly behavior comes from and bears witness to the truth of the **gospel**. It never suggests that Christians should base their behavior on the **culture** that surrounds them.

Doctrine is foundational for behavior. You will behave according to what you really **believe**.

Verses 5, 8, 10

There are many reasons for living a faithful Christian life, but here special emphasis falls on the **witness** such behavior gives to the world.

What God cares about has nothing to do with the **size** of a church; what God wants has to do with the **character** of a church.

People judge our Jesus by what we do and who we are, not just by what we **say**. What God gives us in chapter 2 is God's **evangelistic** strategy for His church. We reach the world by **holiness**, not by magical techniques.

Verse 2-9

God designed the body of Christ so that older believers might be **sharpened** by the younger and younger believers might be **taught** by the older.

For most of us, there are people on either side of you **spiritually** in this place who need **you** to be and do what God shows as His plan for those roles.

If everyone at Fairway did 'church' and the Christian life like I do, would Fairway be **better** or **worse** off?

If the saving grace of Christ is going to reach all men, it is going to depend on the **character** of His church – of each of us.

The foundation for all Christian conduct is that God saved us so that we might be **zealous** for good works so that we are used by God to lead others to Him.

Verses 11-15

To reduce salvation to just deliverance from **hell** and not from the power of **sin** day to day is to destroy the gospel.

The end of God's purposes is not complete until we become a people zealous for **good works** – to do what is good.

If our lifestyles on the **outside** don't reflect the effectiveness of the gospel, then the gospel has not affected us on the **inside** either.

Salvation is accomplished by grace – lived by faith – and proven by **works** every single day of our lives as we follow Jesus. That's what it means to be a Christian. And that is the very **best** life there is!