

Titus 2:1-10

Creating a healthy church culture

SOUND DOCTRINE CREATES A HEALTHY CHURCH CULTURE

*But as for you, speak the things which are proper
for sound doctrine: (v1)*

- Sound doctrine encourages godly behaviour
- The godliness of your behaviour influences others in the church

CREATING A HEALTHY CHURCH CULTURE: OLDER MEN

- *...that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; (v2)*
 - No self-indulgent behaviour or attitudes
 - 'Uncracked', rock solid, stable

'Older men' : an example of godly faith and leadership

OLDER MEN (ch2)

- Sober
- Reverent
- Temperate
- Sound in faith
- Sound in love
- Sound in patience

ELDERS (ch 1)

- *Sober - minded*
- *Blameless*
- *Self-controlled*
- *Holding fast the faithful word*
- *Hospitable*
- *Not quick-tempered*

CREATING A HEALTHY CHURCH CULTURE: OLDER WOMEN

- "...the older women likewise, that they be **REVERENT** in behaviour, **NOT** slanderers, **NOT** given to much wine, **TEACHERS** of good things— that they admonish the young women ..." (vv3-4)
 - Worthy of respect
 - Not following the prevailing culture (attitudes)
 - Actively building a better culture

Practically...

- For much of your life you will feel both 'older' and 'younger'.
- There is a time for those who are 'younger' to step up and start seeing themselves as older
- Older people need to take the initiative to bridge the gap
- It is a very mature, wise young person who seeks to develop a learning relationship with an older person

CREATING A HEALTHY CHURCH CULTURE: YOUNG WOMEN

- that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ *to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.* (vv4-5)
 - Honour marriage
 - Esteem the work of a mother and wife highly

CREATING A HEALTHY CHURCH CULTURE: YOUNG MEN

- *exhort the young men to be sober-minded (v6)*
- encourage the young men to be **self-controlled** (NIV)
- urge the young men to be ^[a]**sensible** (NASB)
- urge [the young men] to **take life seriously** (Phillips)
- urge the younger men to be **self-restrained** *and* to **behave prudently** [**taking life seriously**]. (Amplified)
- urge the younger men to be **self-controlled** (ESV)
- encourage the young men to **live orderly lives** (Knox)
- guide the young men to **live disciplined lives** (The Message)

Young men need to be SHOWN

- in all things showing yourself *to be* a pattern of good works; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, [\[a\]](#) ⁸ sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.

An example to follow

- Doing **good works** regularly
- Being solid in understanding the **word of God**,
 - Not wavering on it
 - Not compromising
 - Not being foolish about it
- Learning to **speak** so **carefully** that even your enemies can't pick a hole in it.

A HEALTHY CHURCH CULTURE GROWS OUT OF CHRIST

- Christ gives your actions purpose
- Christ shows you the path of sacrifice
- Christ shows you that God takes your sin seriously

