

The Joy of Obedience

A Study on Titus



*Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities,
to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed,
to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle,
showing every consideration for all men.*

(Titus 3:1-2)

Welcome to Grace Bible Church’s 4th Annual Ladies Retreat. We are excited you made it a priority to be here this weekend. We pray that your time here this weekend will cause you to grow in your love for Christ and encourage you as you “adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.” We pray you will be blessed by your time at this conference. Below is a listing of what you will find in this conference booklet.

Contents

Schedule..... 2

The Letter of Paul to Titus 3

Session One..... 7

Elder Qualifications 9

Session Two 13

Session Three 16

Panel Discussion 19

Session Four..... 20

Romans 13:1-5 23

Getting to the heart of things...Help with making conversations intentional. 28

Pastor/Elder Prayer Requests..... 29

I Need You; You Need Me 32

The Women's Ministry Leadership Team..... 33

Mom’s Group..... 33

Letter from the Elders 34



Schedule

Saturday

Session One

9:15-12:00 Gainey Room

Lunch

12:00-1:00 Hearth Room

Session Two

1:30-3:00 Gainey Room

Free Time & Check In

3:00-6:00

Dinner

6:00-7:00 Gainey Room

Session Three

7:15-9:00 Gainey Room

Sunday

Breakfast on your own (complimentary continental)

7:00-9:00 Hearth Room

Session Four

9:15 -11:30 Gainey Room

Check out

11:30-12:00



The Letter of Paul to Titus

Chapter 1

Salutation

- 1 Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of
Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God
and the knowledge of the truth which is according
to godliness,
2 in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot
lie, promised long ages ago,
3 but at the proper time manifested, *even* His word,
in the proclamation with which I was entrusted
according to the commandment of God our Savior,
4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace
and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our
Savior.

Qualifications of Elders

- 5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would
set in order what remains and appoint elders in
every city as I directed you,
6 *namely*, if any man is above reproach, the husband
of one wife, having children who believe, not
accused of dissipation or rebellion.
7 For the overseer must be above reproach as God's
steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not
addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of
sordid gain,
8 but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just,
devout, self-controlled,
9 holding fast the faithful word which is in
accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able
both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those
who contradict.
10 For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers



- and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,
- 11 who must be silenced because they are upsetting whole families, teaching things they should not *teach* for the sake of sordid gain.
- 12 One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."
- 13 This testimony is true. For this reason reprove them severely so that they may be sound in the faith,
- 14 not paying attention to Jewish myths and commandments of men who turn away from the truth.
- 15 To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled.
- 16 They profess to know God, but by *their* deeds they deny *Him*, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.

Chapter 2

Duties of the Older and Younger

- 1 But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine.
- 2 Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance.
- 3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good,
- 4 so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,
- 5 *to be* sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.
- 6 Likewise urge the young men to be sensible;
- 7 in all things show yourself to be an example of



- good deeds, *with* purity in doctrine, dignified,
8 sound *in* speech which is beyond reproach, so that
the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing
bad to say about us.
- 9 *Urge* bondslaves to be subject to their own masters
in everything, to be well-pleasing, not
argumentative,
10 not pilfering, but showing all good faith so that
they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in
every respect.
- 11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing
salvation to all men,
12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly
desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly
in the present age,
13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing
of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ
Jesus,
14 who gave Himself for us to redeem us from
every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a
people for His own possession, zealous for good
deeds.
- 15 These things speak and exhort and reprove with
all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Chapter 3

Godly Living

- 1 Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities,
to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed,
2 to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing
every consideration for all men.
- 3 For we also once were foolish ourselves,
disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and
pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy,
hateful, hating one another.
- 4 But when the kindness of God our Savior and *His*



- love for mankind appeared,
- 5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,
- 6 whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
- 7 so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to *the* hope of eternal life.
- 8 This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.
- 9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.
- 10 Reject a factious man after a first and second warning,
- 11 knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned.

Personal Concerns

- 12 When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.
- 13 Diligently help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way so that nothing is lacking for them.
- 14 Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful.
- 15 All who are with me greet you. Greet those who love us in *the* faith.
Grace be with you all.



Introduction and Chapter One

The Book of Titus

Session One

Background:

Date Written:

When we have a proper view of Christ's _____ for us, then our _____ obedience will have a powerful impact on our _____ world ; and it will _____ the gospel lived out to that world.

The word “**sound**” is used _____ times in the book of Titus.

The phrase “**good works**” is used _____ in the book of Titus.



Written By:

Written To:

Purpose in Writing:

Qualifications of an elder:

1) Exhort the Body in _____.

2) Protect the body by _____.



Elder Qualifications

For the sermons series on church leadership see: <http://gracetempe.org/leadership>

Prior to becoming a pastor/elder at Grace Bible Church, the men are evaluated in the following areas relating to their life, desire, character, and doctrine. There is ongoing reevaluation and encouragement in growth in these areas as well. Pray for your pastors regarding these:

An elder's desire, 1 Timothy 3:1

What is the “fine work” that a godly man has desire for in the local church? It is the salvation work of God through the gospel of Jesus Christ in and through the ministry of the local church (Please read the surrounding contexts for Paul’s ‘It is a trustworthy statement’ phrases found in 1 Timothy 1:15, 1 Timothy 4:9; 2 Timothy 2:11, Titus 3:8). Read also the wider context of Acts 6 (Where the apostles are functioning as ‘prototype elders’ in the early church).

An elder's work, 1 Peter 5:1-4; Hebrews 13:17; Acts 20:28

Read the above passages carefully. An elder’s work in the local church is that of shepherding (‘pastoring’) the souls under his care with the gospel which requires being close enough to the sheep to watch over (‘overseer’) their spiritual lives. Although an elder will need to be effective and efficient with administrative tasks, the predominant work he must be about in the body is that of shepherding people with the word of God as he exercises oversight over them.

An elder's character, 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9

An elder is one who is said to possess (and yet should be ever progressing in) the character qualifications as outlines in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. See below.

An elder's doctrine, Titus 1:9; Acts 20:28-32

An elder is called upon by God to promote and protect biblical doctrine in the church. Attacks on the church’s doctrine may come from within or from outside the body. The elder must stand, ever ready, to not just defend sound doctrine, but proactively advance sound doctrine in and through the church.

An elder's season of life

A man may be growing in desire to lead the body into God’s salvation work, his heart may be to shepherd and oversee souls with the gospel, he may be above reproach in character, and he may even be sound in doctrine, but what will influence the depth and degree to which he can step into the shepherding role in the body is the season and/or station of life he currently finds himself in.



Elder qualifications from 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1:

Is above reproach

The man who is above reproach or blameless, 1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 3:6-7

The elder is “above criticism” (the way he lives is simply out of reach of criticism); he is a man marred by no disgrace that could diminish the impact of his spiritual leadership.

Is convinced he must control himself self-controlled, Titus 1:8

When he thinks of himself, he thinks of his need for control, discipline and restraint. He does not think of boundless freedom for himself. He is convinced by what he has seen within his own flesh that he must be full of the Spirit’s power:

Temperate/Restrained, 1 Timothy 3:2

He is one who hold himself in or one who always has a halter on himself. It is necessary that elders – who face many different ministry demands and interests, problems, pressures and decisions – be mentally and emotionally temperate and restrained – otherwise they can be easily ensnared.

Prudent/Sensible, 1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:8

He avoids extremes and is able to keep an objective perspective in the face of problems and disagreements. This is very similar to “temperate” in 1 Timothy 3:2. Same word as “sensible” in Titus 1:8

Not addicted to wine, 1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7

If he is in control of himself, the elder will not foolishly, habitually hand over control of himself to alcohol or any other substance (prescription drugs, tobacco, etc.). If he uses alcohol, then he is above reproach in the way he uses alcohol (and even prescription drugs). He is therefore not preoccupied or overindulgent with them.

Is completely satisfied to love only one woman—his wife

Husband of one wife, 1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:6

He is a one-woman man meaning he is completely satisfied to have eyes, romance, an emotional attachment and sexual desire for only one woman, his wife. If a man is not married, but is controlling himself by God’s Spirit to love someday that one woman who may become his wife, then he meets this qualification:

Exhibits spiritual leadership that his children are faithfully embracing

Manages his household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity, 1 Timothy 3:4-5

and having children who believe, who are not accused of dissipation or rebellion, Titus 1:6

We believe these are parallel qualifications, describing essentially the same qualification. The kind of spiritual leader the man is at home impacts his children’s behavior. The man’s control over his family is to be a dignified spiritual leadership which his own children (as well as the church) conclude to be dignified. The natural consequence on his children will be that they are impacted by his dignified spiritual leadership: They are to be ‘manageable and controllable’ precisely because they respect their father’s dignified spiritual leadership! Put another way, his children are won by his leadership and authority which command respect. The child sees where his father’s spiritual leadership is going, and the child is faithfully coming along – sometimes really well, and at other times perhaps more slowly, even with some degree of resistance.



Freely gives of himself so others benefit

Free from the love of money/not fond of sordid gain, 1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7

Literally he is “not to live silver” and “not be greedy for wealth”. He does not slavishly grab for himself so that he benefits financially. The bulls-eye of his life is not his own gain, but rather others’ spiritual gain.

Hospitable, 1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:8

Being hospitable is a great way that the elder can give of himself so that others can benefit. Literally he is a “stranger lover”. This qualification is all about people and the intersection of lives. The home is an important tool. Everything the elder possesses he uses to share and give away to others that they may benefit spiritually. He uses what he has received for others and he positions his possessions for the benefit of others spiritually (and physically). To the elder, his home is one of his favorite tools for ministry.

Seeks to reflect God’s character in relationships

Not self-willed, Titus 1:7

A self-willed man thinks his ideas, opinions, or ways are always superior and are therefore to be embraced deeply by all. If they are not, then the self-willed man forces them on others with his strong will. This type of man is not genuinely concerned for the sheep or other elders’ opinions or concerns – because he is the team. But the man who is self-less in Christ truly cares for the sheep and works as a servant on the elder ‘team’.

Not quick-tempered, Titus 1:7

A quick-tempered man is literally a man inclined to anger. He is constantly positioned in his attitude and outlook to slide down or drop into anger. Sheep have no trouble coming to an elder who is not easily angered for counsel and comfort. Elders work best together when their tempers are under the control of the Spirit.

Not pugnacious, 1 Timothy 3:3, Titus 1:7

Literally, this type of man is ready to throw a blow at another. Obviously, this type of man will not be pursued or respected by the sheep and other leaders. Striking another person is simply not an option for the man of God who longs to lead God’s people.

Gentle, 1 Timothy 3:3

Alexander Strauch says this about this qualification: “Elders must handle highly emotional interpersonal conflicts and deeply felt doctrinal disagreements between believers. Elders are often at the center of very tense situations, so a bad tempered, abusive man is not going to solve issues and problems. He will in fact, create worse explosions....Gentleness is one of the most attractive and needed virtues required of an elder. This means he exhibits a willingness to yield and patiently make allowances for weakness and ignorance. It means he refuses to retaliate in kind for wrong done to him by others and does not insist upon everyone honoring his personal rights.”

Peaceable, 1 Timothy 3:3

This man has the ability to promote peace where there is conflict. He is a peacemaker, and so much as it is possible with him, he is ‘able to bring peace’ to relationships (Romans 12:18; Hebrews 12:14). The church must have these kinds of elders because believers are going to sin against one another and need to become experts at making peace with one another. That is the primary difference between the church and the world: The world has conflict too, but they are willing ‘to throw each other under the bus’ along the way. The church is not. We make peace with one another, and elders are to lead in this. Sheep unify under such men.



Possesses a time tested reputation that is widely respected

Not a new convert, 1 Timothy 2:6

Gene Getz says this about this qualification: "Among those he ministers to, 'He must be a mature believer and obviously one who has been a Christian at least long enough to demonstrate the reality of his conversion and a depth to his spirituality.'" Strauch's words are helpful also: "No matter how spiritual, zealous, knowledgeable, or talented a new convert may be, he is not spiritually mature. Maturity requires time and experience for which there is not substitute, so a new convert is simply not ready for the arduous task of shepherding God's flock."

Devout, Titus 1:8

Time has proven he is holy: Separated from sin and separated unto God. Time is needed to allow observers around him to conclude that he is nearer to God than to the world.

Just, Titus 1:8

Time has proven that he is impartial and fair. He is known for making objective judgments based upon truth and righteousness.

Loving what is good, Titus 1:8

Time has helped prove to all that he has a pattern of loving what is good—according to God's standard of goodness.

Respectable, 1 Timothy 3:2

All of who and what he is demonstrates he is someone to respect. Literally, he is an adornment (cosmetic). He is a 'cosmetic' for the gospel (NOT because the gospel is ugly). Cosmetics aren't used just to hide blemishes, but they can also be used to highlight inherent beauty. He has a respectable lifestyle that only increases the attractiveness of the message of Christ.

Good reputation with those outside, 1 Timothy 3:7

He is not just to have a good reputation within the believing community – his reputation is to stretch wider than that. Why? Because that is the direction the gospel is going! If there is an accusation against him, the elders must be careful to discern *why* there is an accusation against the man. Jesus had accusations against Him from unbelievers too, but *why* He did is everything!

Possesses an unwavering commitment to Scripture and a gifting that equips him to exhort & rebuke

Holding fast the faithful word so that he will be able to both exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict, Titus 1:9

"Holding fast" means to stick oneself to (like glue); to become one with God's faithful word. In a sense we could say that you can't tell where he ends and the faithful word begins. This grip on Scripture is most clearly revealed when error is on the march, advancing on the sheep. The elders of the church need to all be glued to Scripture – they can't afford to have even one who might easily get peeled off doctrinally.

Able to teach, 1 Timothy 3:2

By the phrase, "And he possesses a gifting" ("able to teach"), we mean he is skillful at instructing; able to communicate effectively the truth of God to others both publicly and privately. See Acts 20:20. Gifting does not mean he has to be eloquent, nor a dynamic lecturer/preacher – he simply makes sense with Scripture and the sheep are fed. An elder equipped with that gifting will use it two ways in the body (according to Titus 1:9): (1) To exhort the people (strongly encourage) with healthy, sound (not mixed with error), accurate truth/doctrine; (2) to refute those who contradict. Strauch's words are helpful: "The elder needs two voices, one for gathering sheep and the other for driving away wolves and thieves. Scripture is sufficient for both!"



Titus 2: 11-15
The Book of Titus

Session Two

God's Grace to motivate us to _____.

1) Grace trains us _____.

I obey, therefore I am accepted

I am accepted, therefore I obey.

2) Grace instructs us to _____.

3) Grace will _____ that God has begun.



4) Grace will _____ that God has begun.

5) Grace instructs us to deny _____.

6) God's grace teaches us to _____.

7) Grace teaches us to _____.

8) God's grace teaches us to _____ at the present age.



The life of grace is all-inclusive:

- a) It involves _____ and our _____ thinking and actions.
- b) It involves our relationships with _____.
- c) It involves our relationship with _____.

9) Grace teaches us to _____.



Titus 2:3-5
The Book of Titus

Session Three

A. Older Women Are:

1) To be _____ in their _____.

2) Not to be _____.

3) Not be _____ to much _____.
(The emphasis is on:_____)



4) Are to teach what is _____.

B. Older women are to teach _____.

1) To love their _____.

a) By understanding God's _____.

b) By understanding God's _____.

c) By encouraging them to pray that they would _____ for
their husband's that _____ desires them to have.

2) To love their _____.



3) To be _____.

4) To be _____.

5) To be _____.

6) To be _____.

7) To be _____ to their _____ husbands.



Panel Discussion

Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

Titus 2:3-5

ENCOURAGE - TRAIN - DISCIPLE – MENTOR:

these words can be interchanged at times, but all involve being “intentional” about our interaction & relationships with the women around us.

Discipleship : *involves being intentional with someone on a consistent basis. Sharing your life honestly and transparently with God and His word at the center. Walking with the Lord “together.”*



Titus 3

The Book of Titus

Session Four

“REMIND THEM”:

We are to:

1. Remember our _____ Vs 1-2

We are to be subject _____.

WHY?

1. Government is _____.

2. Resisting rulers is _____.



3. Those who _____ will receive condemnation on themselves.

4. Government is designed by God _____.

5. Government is designed to promote _____ and to punish _____.

6. We are to submit to the government for _____ sake.

a) We are to be _____.

b) We are to be ready for _____.

c) We are to _____.

d) We are to be _____.



e) We are to be _____.

f) We are to show _____ for all men.

2. Remember Our _____. V. 3

3. Remember Our _____ vv. 4-7

4. Remember Our _____. Vs 8



Romans 13:1-5

1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same;

4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

5 Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.



Recommended Book List

Role of Women

Feminine Appeal
Attitudes of a Transformed Heart
Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood
Fruit of Her Hands
The Gentle Ways of the Beautiful Woman
(A Practical Guide to Spiritual Beauty)
The Measure of a Woman
True Woman
Becoming a Titus 2 Woman
A Woman's High Calling
By Design
Girl Talk: Mother-Daughter Conversations On Biblical Womanhood
A Woman After God's Own Heart
Lies Women Believe And The Truth That Sets Them Free
Becoming A Woman of Freedom
Becoming A Woman of Grace
Becoming A Woman of Prayer
Becoming A Woman of Purpose
Becoming A Woman of Excellence
Becoming A Woman of Faith

Carolyn Mahaney
Martha Peace
John Piper and Wayne Grudem
Nancy Wilson
Anne Orland

Gene Getz
Susan Hunt
Martha Peace
Elizabeth George
Susan Hunt
Carolyn Mahaney, Nicole Mahaney Whitacre, and C. J. Mahaney
Elizabeth George
Nancy Leigh DeMoss
Cynthia Heald
Cynthia Heald
Cynthia Heald
Cynthia Heald
Cynthia Heald
Cynthia Heald

Role of Women in Marriage

The Excellent Wife
Loving Your Husband
The Sacred Marriage
Helper By Design
When Sinners Say I Do
Love That Lasts: When Marriage Meets Grace

Martha Peace
Cynthia Heald
Gary Thomas
Elyse Fitzpatrick
Dave Harvey
Gary and Betsy Ricucci

Role of Women in Singleness

Did I Kiss Marriage Goodbye?: Trusting God With a Hope Deferred
Singled Out For Him
Doing Things Right In Matters Of The Heart
Passion and Purity
When Sinners Say I Do
Recovering A Biblical View Of Christian Dating Holding Hands Holding Hearts

Carolyn McCulley
Nancy Leigh DeMoss
John Ensor
Elisabeth Elliot
Dave Harvey
Richard and Sharon Phillips



Parenting

Don't Make Me Count To Three
Wise Words for Mom
Shepherding Your Child's Heart
Instructing a Child's Heart
The Family
Age Of Opportunity
Withhold Not Correction
Teach Them Diligently
Your Child's Profession of Faith

Ginger Plowman
Ginger Plowman
Tedd Tripp
Tedd Tripp
John Macarthur
Paul David Tripp
Bruce Ray
Lou Priolo
Dennis Gundersen

Books on Mentoring

Between Women of God (The Gentle Art of Mentoring)
Iron Sharpens Iron
Mentoring (Confidence in Finding a Mentor and Becoming One)
Spiritual Mothering
Come Walk With Me

Donna Otto
Howard Hendricks
Bob Beihl
Susan Hunt
Carole Mayhall

Basics of The Christian Faith

Ultimate Questions
Seeking God
What You Need To Know About Salvation
Bitesize Theology
Knowing Scripture
Basics for Believers
Fundamentals of the Faith

John Blanchard
Peter Jeffery
Peter Jeffrey
Peter Jeffrey
R. C. Sproul
William Thrasher, Jr.
published by Grace Book Shack

Doctrine

The Attributes of God
The Sovereignty of God
Chosen by God
Knowing God
Concise Theology
The Five Points of Calvinism
Sinners In The Hands Of A Good God
Systematic Theology

A.W. Pink
A.W. Pink
R. C. Sproul
J. I. Packer
J. I. Packer
David Steele & Curtis Thomas
David Clotfelter
Wayne Grudem

Evangelism

Let the Nations Be Glad
The Gospel and Personal Evangelism
Words to Winners of Souls

John Piper
Mark Dever
Horatius Bonar



Christian Living

Pursuit of Holiness
Practice of Godliness
Growing Your Faith
The Attributes of God
The Enemy Within
Abiding In Christ
A Long Obedience In The Same Direction
Bitesize Theology
What You Need to Know About Salvation
Spiritual Disciplines For the Christian Life
Ten Questions to Diagnose Your Spiritual Health
What To Do on Thursday?
The Peacemaker
Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands
War of Words
When Life and Beliefs Collide
Don't Waste Your Life
What Jesus Demands from the World
Shopping For Time: How To Do It All And Not Be Overwhelmed
Living The Cross Centered Life
Worldliness
Humility True Greatness
Overcoming Sin & Temptation
Love To Eat Hate To Eat

Jerry Bridges
Jerry Bridges
Jerry Bridges
A.W. Pink
Kris Lundgarrrd
Cynthia Heald
Eugene Peterson
Peter Jeffery
Peter Jeffery
Donald Whitney
Donald Whitney
Jay Adams
Ken Sande
Paul David Tripp
Paul David Tripp
Carolyn Custis James
John Piper
John Piper
Carolyn Mahaney & daughters
CJ Mahaney
CJ Mahaney
CJ Mahaney
John Owen (ed. Justin Taylor)
Elyse Fitzpatrick

Counseling Helps

Biblical Counseling
Quick Scripture Reference
Damsels In Distress
Women Helping Women

John MacArthur
John G. Kruis
Martha Peace
Elyse Fitzpatrick

Grace

Transforming Grace
Disciplines of Grace
The Gospel For Real Life
Because He Loves Me
Future Grace
All of Grace

Jerry Bridges
Jerry Bridges
Jerry Bridges
Elyse Fitzpatrick
John Piper
Charles Spurgeon



Depression

Spiritual Depression: It's Causes & Cure
When I Don't Desire God
Loving God With All Your Mind

Martin Lloyd-Jones
John Piper
Elizabeth George

Worry/Fear

Loving God with All Your Mind
Calm My Anxious Heart
Trusting God Even When Life Hurts
Is God Really In Control

Elizabeth George
Linda Dillow
Jerry Bridges
Jerry Bridges

Anger

Heart of Anger
Anger and Stress Management God's Way

Lou Priolo
Wayne Mack

Bible Studies

MacArthur Bible Studies
Message Of The Old Testament: Promises Made
Message Of The New Testament: Promises Kept by
How To Read The Bible Book By Book
Be... Series

John MacArthur
Mark Dever
Mark Dever
Gordon Fee & Douglas Stuart
Warren Wiersbe

* Please read all books with discernment, filtering their contents by the Word of God.



Getting to the heart of things...

Help with making conversations intentional.

How was your week?

What was encouraging about it?

..... did you find yourself remembering God in those moments?

..... how did you express your gratefulness to him for this/these encouragements?

What was challenging for you this past week?

..... what was your initial response to the challenge?

..... what were your thoughts of God in this?

..... any scripture your mind ran to or you purposed to meditate on?

What are you struggling with right now?

How did you see God at work?

What did your time w/ the Lord look like?

.... what are you reading/learning/memorizing?

Did you pray? did you pray often?

.... did you have any answered prayer?

Any opportunities to share Christ w/ someone or at least talk about Him/His working in your life?

How's your heart?

How is your thought life? What are your thoughts regarding _____?

How can I pray for you this coming week?

What would be an encouragement to you this week?

Questions from Titus 2 (see Titus 2: 4-5)

(taken from Carolyn Mahaney's, "Feminine Appeal")

Of the seven virtues listed in Titus 2 - which one do you think your husband, father, trusted friend would like you to work on? Go ahead and ask them!

Loving your husband - How did you chose to cherish your husband this past week?

Loving your children - What are your current "feelings" about Motherhood? How does God's word address your current feelings?

Self Control - Eating, sleeping, thoughts, feelings, & time with God...which area are you most in need of self control? What truths about God and the gospel can we run to in this battle?

Purity - In what ways might you be making "provision for the flesh?" See Romans 13:14 (Possible places to evaluate... T.V., books, magazines, music, situations, daydreaming...) How can you "flee" these temptations? Remember your "Grace Realities and Gospel Truths!"

Homemaking - Which homemaking task is your least favorite? Which do you enjoy the most? What does the world say about homemaking? How does scripture convince us differently? (see Titus 2, I Timothy 5:14, and Proverbs 31)

Kind - Do you think your family would describe you as "happy"? (Go ahead and ask them!) What is one way you can grow in creating a joyful atmosphere in your home? How did you seek to advance your families happiness this past week?

Submission - How did you show your husband respect this past week? How did you use your gifts to assist your husband?

***** How do the Titus 2 "virtues" showcase/adorn the gospel? *****



Pastor/Elder Prayer Requests



Tom Angstead
Pastor/Elder

- Church
 - Build & H3-pray for the men of our church. They would glorify God in their life & marriage, singleness
 - Next Generation-For our children. Salvation at a young age
 - Missions-Wisdom that we would honor God with who is sent and how they are sent.
 - Elders-how we care & shepherd one another as elders. God's protection from ourselves.
- Ministry outside GBC
 - Tempe PD-I would glorify God in my interaction with the department. That all officers would come to saving faith. Romans 13 is clear that God has given them their authority many just do not know that yet.
- Personal
 - Wisdom in caring for others in the church, home, with adult children and grand kids.
 - My hunger for knowing and loving God would only increase and never decrease.
 - I would make wise use of free time, and minimize wasted minutes.
- Personal Work
 - Wisdom in making the most of the time I spend at work.
 - I would be a blessing to my employees



Steve Brotherton
Pastor/Elder-intern

- That I might know Him and the power of His resurrection.
- That I would grow as a man of faith.
- That I would focus on His great power rather than on my own inadequacy.
- That God would increase my love for His people and the desire to serve them and Him.
- That God would save my older sons, their wives, and my granddaughter.
- That He would bless my business for the purpose of freeing me more for His service and that I would respond wisely.
- That I would love and serve my wife more fervently.
- That I may never abandon dependency upon God in my role as an elder.



Scott Demarest
Pastor/Elder

- I need ongoing wisdom to divide my time rightly between family, eldering and work. I am very grateful for each part of my life. The decision of where to spend my time is not always an easy one.
- I would also covet prayer for the wisdom to stand in the grace truths that sanctify me every day





Jacob Hantla
Pastor/Elder -
intern

- To love God; to never be content to know about Him, but to know Him, and that I would diligently work to grow in this knowledge daily
- To be increasing in thoughtfulness, love, and care for my wife & daughter.
- That I would love my wife more deeply and more consistently than I already do.
- That God would save Elianna from a young age.
- That I would not be a hypocrite; that I'd watch my own life and doctrine as I shepherd the flock (1 Tim 4:16; Acts 20:28)
- That the breadth and depth of my relationships at GBC would grow.
- For diligence in my work at the hospital and real estate, and that I would know when to say "no" or "yes" to work opportunities. And that I would be diligent at work to be sharing the gospel often as I deepen relationships with those I work for.
- For the unsaved in my family; that I would be diligent to not share the gospel with them, demonstrating Christ's love in my interactions with them.
- For increased effectiveness in my shepherding care of GBC. I'm new at this and have a lot to learn, but God has placed me around a better group of elders to learn from than I would even know to ask for.
- For even more unity and trust among the elders than we already enjoy.
- That my living, husbanding, fathering, and eldering would be done for God's glory and ends and not mine...that my desires would increasingly become aligned with God's in all aspects of my life.



Mark Kronwald
Pastor/Elder

- Wisdom
- Discernment
- Diligence and effectiveness in the use of my time
- That I would be a humble servant leader
- That I would always remember that I will have to give an account to God for the souls He has entrusted to our care
- That I would carefully guard the body from false doctrine and harmful influences
- That God would preserve the love and unity we enjoy as elders
- For the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace in our church
- That the Holy Spirit would continue to convict me of sin, especially blind spots, and that I would be quick to repent
- That I would be more proactive rather than just reactive in my care for the body
- That I would be found faithful in carrying out the responsibilities God has entrusted me with as husband, father, grandfather, elder, and businessman
- That my life would be above reproach and that I could say "follow me as I follow Christ"
- My children and grandchildren





Scott Maxwell
Pastor/Elder

- Personally:
 - To daily shepherd my heart nearer to Jesus Christ through the word of God and prayer. The basics are never to be graduated from!
 - To daily preach the grace realities of the gospel to myself and my sin; to address my sin always in view of the cross.
 - To be alert to the needs of my wife and children during this last sprint in the doctorate "race".
 - To specifically present and apply the gospel to each of my children in unison with Kim on a daily basis.
 - For the gospel to take deep root in our children.
- For the board:
 - To lovingly shepherd one another well throughout the challenges and blessings of ministry.
 - To intentionally work on our unity and love for one another (wives included). The demands of ministry can pull us apart or even pit us against one another if we are not careful.
 - For God to raise up more shepherds so that the body can receive the best shepherding care possible.



Smedly Yates
Pastor/Elder

- Personally would ask that you pray for all of us (elders) as:
 - followers of Jesus - integrity, faithfulness in small things, personal heart-shepherding
 - husbands - proclaiming the gospel in the way we love our wives
 - fathers/grandfathers - leading, loving, teaching, serving our kids/grandkids well. We cannot be good pastors apart from faithfulness in these areas.
- On the elder side of things, please pray that God would grant wisdom as we lead, friendship and comradery, like-mindedness and unity as we seek to equip the saints for the work of ministry.



I Need You; You Need Me

In an open letter that every believer should sign and read, the Irish Calvinist reminds us how to ensure that our time together is for God's glory and our good:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I need you. I need you to help me. I need you to live your life in such a way that it intends to draw my attention to the glory and greatness of our God. I beg you not to sleep in tomorrow morning but instead to get up and read your Bible. Discover afresh the beauty of God in the sacred text. Dwell upon his faithfulness to his own promises. Muse upon his glorious gift of grace in the salvation of sinners like you and me. Write the Word of God upon your own heart so that it produces reverence for God.

Also, I urge you to spend time on your knees in prayer. And whatever you do, don't fall asleep, don't let your mind wander; don't stop praying until you start praying. Drive yourself into humble submission before the great and infinite reservoir of grace that you might find help in your neediness.

As you leave and go about your day, please preach the glories of the gospel to yourself. Tell yourself afresh of the glorious gift of grace, the Lord Jesus Christ, that incarnation of holiness and love; hear again the words of John the Baptist, "Behold, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1.29) Watch him obey the Law in your place, see his perfection in both speech and in deed. Hear him say afresh, "I always do what is pleasing to my Father" (John 8.29). Watch him march resolutely to the cross to purchase our redemption. See him pray for his executioners, evangelize his fellow cross-bearers, gasp for breath, commission his disciple, proclaim it is finished, and then give up his life. See him here and marvel. But don't stop here! Run with the disciples to the tomb and stoop with them and see, see 'the linen cloths by themselves' and you too come away 'marveling at what had happened' (Luke 24.12). Rejoice at the reality of the living Savior who has given his life to vindicate the glory of God and rescue a people for himself.

Now as you leave, sing the doctrinal praise along with Paul "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Eph. 1.3ff) in tune with Peter with "joy inexpressible" (1 Pet. 1.8).

And now believer, come and talk to a Christian like me and tell me something. Tell me something eternal (Ps. 92.8)! Give me something for my soul (Matt. 4.4)! Tell me what impresses you about Christ (Matt. 8.27)! Tell me of the gospel's power (Rom. 1.16)! Tell me of Christ's success as a high priest (Heb. 7.27)! Tell me of his impending return (Matt. 24.30)! Tell me of the divine purpose in trials (Jam 1.3-5)! Tell me the perseverance of the saints (Jude 24)! Tell me of the ultimate success of the church (Matt. 16.18)! Tell me God's gracious work in your life (2 Cor. 3.18)! Tell me of the purity and power of the word of God (Ps. 19.7ff)! Tell me of how you are praying for me (Col. 1.9ff)! Please...I need you to do this. My heart needs to hear continually of why Christ is so great (2 Pet. 1.12). So please Christian, don't forget to tell me. Please...be a good friend (Heb. 3.13ff). And by the grace of God, I will return the favor to you.

Your brother in the fellowship of the Lord Jesus Christ,



The Women's Ministry Leadership Team

The following women, under the direction of our elders, meet together once a month to pray, plan, and provide leadership for the Women of Grace Bible Church. We hope you will feel welcome to contact any one of us to share your thoughts or ask questions. If you would like to contact us as a group our email is titus2@gracetempe.org.

Name	Number	Email
Ann Angstead	480.940.9364	ann@gracetempe.org
Janie Brotherton	602.332.0762	janie@gracetempe.org
Sarah Demarest	480.926.4556	sarah@gracetempe.org
Chris Evans	480.831.2773	chris@gracetempe.org
Kiki Hantla	480.242.2780	kiki@gracetempe.org
DeNa Iserman	480.967.9356	dena@gracetempe.org
Carol Kronwald	480.755.4740	carol@gracetempe.org
Kim Maxwell	480.968.6085	kim@gracetempe.org
Janet Yates	615.319.2411	janet@gracetempe.org

By His Grace,
The Women's Ministry Leadership Team



Mom's Group

Mom's group is a weekly gathering of moms and their young children. This time is a great opportunity to build relationships and encourage one another as the children learn to play together. We meet Tuesday mornings at various homes throughout the valley. Please contact Jen Herbrandson for more information, herbrandson@hotmail.com.



Letter from the Elders

Hopefully there is no doubt in any of your minds that God has women and their womanhood near the center of His exalted work of redeeming sinners. Scripture unfolds a long line of women whom He positioned at just the right moment to sustain, protect and advance His work of redemption. Think on these women and the role each uniquely played in God's plan as it reached its fulfillment in Christ: Eve, Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Rahab, Deborah, Ruth, Hannah, Mary, Anna, the Samaritan woman at the well, Martha and Mary, Mary Magdalene, Lydia, and Priscilla. The overwhelming evidence from Scripture is that God never hesitates to position women for crucial service in His big plan of salvation. The call from God to the women of GBC is to become prepared under the gospel of Jesus Christ for crucial service for God today.

But what will that mean for you, exactly? What powerful, shaping effect will the gospel bring within you? That is what the book of Titus (and especially, Titus 2) is all about! The gospel of Jesus Christ is powerful doctrine or teaching. It shapes women into a particular servant-vessel for His glory.

And that happens to be precisely what this retreat (and the women's ministry at GBC) is all about. No matter your age, your maturity in Christ, your single-married status, or the presence of children or not under your care, the gospel shapes all women into what Titus 2 outlines. What a grace-gift from God this chapter is! You have not been left to yourself to wonder what kind of woman you are to grow into in Christ! God has unfolded His heart for you as a woman and His view of gospel-womanhood with great clarity!

The ultimate reason why God is shaping women into the servant-vessels He is making is profound. Without giving the chapter away in this letter, pay close attention to this all weekend long. What is the ultimate purpose and effect as you embrace the womanhood the gospel will bring to your life? What a joy it will be for you to discover the answer in Paul's letter to Titus.

So, enjoy the fellowship and the teaching of God's word this weekend! You will benefit greatly as you joyfully pursue obedience to God's word by the grace of God. And the body of Christ will benefit greatly as you step into each others' lives with the fruit of Titus 2 within.

You are precious in God's sight, and your elders are praying for you all!

Grace,
The elders of GBC

