

“Leadership Tasks”

HEART ATTITUDE: Pure in Heart

TITUS 1:1-16 (NIV)

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God’s elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness— (1)

A faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, (2)

And at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, (3)

To Titus, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. (4)

The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. (5)

An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. (6)

Since an overseer is entrusted with God’s work, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. (7)

Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. (8)

He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. (9)

For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group. (10)

They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach--and that for the sake of dishonest gain. (11)

Even one of their own prophets has said, “Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons.” (12)

This testimony is true. Therefore, rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith (13)

And will pay no attention to Jewish myths or to the commands of those who reject the truth. (14)

To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. (15)

They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him.

They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good. (16)

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• FOCUSING

1. What characteristics do you think are necessary in a good leader?

2. What characteristics do you think are necessary in a good leader?

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3. What leader has had the most influence on you? How?

• **STUDYING GOD'S WORD**

4. How is Paul's description of himself at the beginning of this letter significant? (1:1)

5. How did Paul describe the faith that he had? (1:1-2)

6. In light of Paul's reference to Titus, what kind of relationship did these two believers have? (1:4)

7. Why did Paul leave Titus in Crete? (1:5)

8. For what reason was it necessary to appoint elders in the towns? (1:5, 10)

9. What qualifications were necessary to be an elder in Titus's church? (1:6-9)

10. Why is it necessary for an elder to be blameless? (1:7)

11. What is the result of holding firm to the "trustworthy message"? (1:9)

12. How should believers respond to "rebellious people" in the church? (1:10-13)

13. What were the rebellious people doing that Paul so strongly condemned? (1:11)

14. What did Paul tell his audience to pay no attention to? (1:14)

15. How is it possible to learn whether a person truly knows God? (1:16)

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• **UNDERSTANDING**

16. What does it mean that, *To the pure, all things are pure*?

17. What does the relationship between Paul and Titus teach us about how we should treat other Christians?

18. Why is it necessary to appoint elders and leaders in the church?

19. Who are the overseers in your church?

20. To what extent should we choose church elders according to the guidelines in this passage?

21. How should the qualifications for a church leader be different from those for a leader outside of the church?

22. Why do you think it is important for leaders' children to believe in the Lord and not be disobedient?

23. What work in the church has God entrusted to you?

24. What area of your character most needs your attention at this time in your life?

25. What are rebellious people in the church like?

26. How can you encourage others?

27. How should we treat rebellious people in the church?

28. What should our motivation be in correcting those who teach things they ought not to teach?
