

Titus 1.⁵This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you—⁶if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. ⁷For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, ⁸but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. ⁹He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. ¹⁰For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. ¹¹They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. ¹²One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." ¹³This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. ¹⁶They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

1. How are church leaders like/unlike CEO's?
2. What do you do when you think a church leader is in sin? Hint: Matthew 18:15-18, 1 Timothy 5:19-21
3. Do you pray for God to protect church leaders from temptation? Thanks!!
4. What is the difference between being "blameless" and perfection? How can a person achieve "purity"?
5. Which is more dangerous – a boring Bible teacher or a great church-communicator who mishandles Scripture?
6. What is the "right way" to rebuke? Have you done it? Is it "judging"(Matthew 7.1)? How can we link confrontation with reconciliation?
7. Can you "add" anything to the Gospel without losing it?

Titus 1.5-16

Transforming Truth

1. The Challenge to Truth

- a. Rejected the Truth of God vs. 10,12,13, Psalm 68.11
- b. Replaced vs. 10, 14, 16, Romans 1.26, 1 Corinthians 3:21-23
- c. Religion for Riches vs. 7,11, 1 Peter 5.1-5
- d. Rebellion vs. 10-12,14-16, 1 Timothy 4.1-5
- e. Rebuke vs. 9, 11, 13, 2 Timothy 2.23-26, Acts 17.11

2. The Community of Truth

- a. Lord Acknowledged vs. 9, 15, Romans 5.10, 14.20

Three Tests of Teaching
It's Origin - from God or man? Revelation or Tradition?
It's Essence - Inward or Outward? Spiritual or Ritual?
It's Result - Transformed Life or Moral Creed?
True Faith = Divine Origin, Spiritual Essence, Moral Transformation

- b. Leaders Appointed v. 5, Acts 14.23, Exodus 18.21

- 1) Same Officers vs. 5,7
- 2) Team Ministry v. 5, Acts 11.30
- 3) Stewards of God v. 9
- 4) Selection of Leaders v. 5

- c. Lives Anointed Titus 3.4-6

- 1) Blameless in Marriage and Family v. 6
- 2) Blameless in Character and Conduct vs. 7,8