

built together

A Study in Titus

Week 1

Growth Group Opener:

Have you ever been put in charge of something you were absolutely not qualified for? What happened?

Read Titus 1:5-16; 1 Timothy 3:4-5

Paul's first priority for the church here was leadership.

Why do you think he started there, instead of with teaching, worship, or community?

What does this tell us about the relationship between leadership health and church health?

Consider the elder qualifications in v6-9 and categorize them into either competence or character. Why do you think the list is weighted the way it is?

What might happen if a leader is gifted in competence but lacks character?

Paul twice connects leadership to household and family life, so what is the connection between how someone leads at home and how they will lead in the church?

The word "sound" in sound doctrine means "healthy." This is not a rigid doctrine, but one that produces health. How might this shift the way you think about the purpose of sound teaching?

Titus 1 is not just a description of the leadership position of an elder; it also essentially describes the character of a mature believer: blameless, faithful, hospitable, self-controlled, holding to the truth, loving what is good, etc.

What is God doing in your life right now to grow this kind of maturity within you?

What does it reveal about God that he entrusts his church to character rather than talent?

Is there anything you sense the Holy Spirit inviting you to look at more closely?

Prayer:

Father, thank you for growing and sanctifying all who believe and follow you into the image of Christ. We pray that you would raise up the next generation of spiritual parents who will teach and lead your body. May all our lives increasingly reflect your goodness, your love, and your mercy. In the name of Jesus, amen.