

Sermon Title: “What does a Church Member Do?”

Primary Text: Titus 2:2-10

Titus 2 is an often quoted passage about discipleship. Within these 15 verses, it's clear that the Church as a whole works to pass on the reality of Grace-Transformed lives from one generation to the next: Older women teaching the younger women how to be self-controlled, temperate, loving spouses who are diligent in the tasks they are charged with, Older men modeling self-controlled, doctrinally saturated lives that declare the Gospel in all they do. Without the work of the Holy Spirit, manifesting that transformation (see **Galatians 5:22-23**) the list in Titus 2 simply becomes an unattainable list – **PRAISE GOD** that the descriptions in **Titus 2** are the evidence of Gospel transformation and not requirements for it!

Pastor Zach reminded us of three “so that” phrases on Sunday in verse 5, 8, and 10. Each of these phrases show us that the Church behaves as those in fellowship and discipleship **so that** the Gospel (and the Church) maintains its reputation and integrity and *adorns* the Gospel... making it **beautiful** for those who observe the people of God as they Gather. He challenged us to examine if our lives as individuals and as a local church *do* those three things and echoed the call and command Paul gave Titus: In light of the Gospel, and in accordance with sound doctrine, live lives that make great, that **glorify** the name of Jesus and the Good News of the finished work on the Cross

Beyond our main text, Pastor Zach referenced these passages:

Galatians 5:22-23

Matthew 5:14-16

Questions to Consider this week:

- **Titus 2** commends and commands Discipleship from one generation to the next. Are you in a relationship (whether in a group or individually) where you are being discipled?
- If you aren't in discipleship with other believers, what **barriers** keep that from happening? Are there **sin** issues that need to be confessed, or is it a matter of **priorities** that keep you from making time?
- The charges from **Titus** can be weighty, and *every* believer will struggle with living in a way that truly honors the Gospel and the Church all the time. How does reflecting on the **Grace of Salvation** (see last week's message) help you pursue the commands in **Titus 2** with hope and joy?
- The Church **only** exists in community: those who pour into us, those who walk alongside us, and those who look up to us for guidance. Take **five minutes** to think of three people that fit one of those categories and pray for them by name.
- Think of two ways you can **adorn** (make beautiful) the Gospel in how you live with others in the church and those in the community. Write them down as reminders for the week.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, I confess that there are times I've failed to live up to the “reputation” of the Bride of Christ – that I've not been a “good” church member. Help me live in a way this week that makes the Gospel beautiful for those at home, at my job, and as a church in our community. -AMEN

Song for Personal Worship

“By Faith” (Keith and Krystin Getty)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LcSmJdhMzSQ>