

LESSON PREP

So often as believers we can struggle to know how we should really live. We know the Ten Commandments but are those the only guidelines for life as believers? Many places in the New Testament we are given guidelines with how we should conduct ourselves and live our lives as followers of Christ and the book of Titus is full of just that.

PRE LG TEXT MESSAGE QUESTIONS

Do you ever wonder what the Bible specifically says about how we should be living our lives? We'll look at some of those Scriptures tonight.

What are the characteristics that someone following Christ should have? Let's discuss those tonight!

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

Titus 2:11-12

10N1 FOLLOW UP

Take time to go through the characteristics talked about in lifegroup. Allow opportunity for response about which characteristics they see present in their life and which characteristics they need to work on. Take a moment to pray for those areas.

OVERVIEW

The following video by The Bible Project gives a great overview of the book of Titus: <https://youtu.be/PUEYCVXJM3k>

INTRODUCTION

Often when we think of the way that a believer should be living their life we think more along the lines of things we shouldn't do. Specifically we often focus on the Ten Commandments. As a group see if you can list all Ten Commandments without having to look it up. Use Exodus chapter 20 to check yourselves.

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *Even though the Ten Commandments are found in the Old Testament, they are still great guidelines for how we should live our lives as believers. What do you think are some other attributes or characteristics that believers should possess?*

Read Titus 2:1-15

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *Because of the culture and context Titus gave instructions to various groups of people (men, women, slaves). Really all the instructions that Titus gave should be something we all apply to our lives. Let's look at what all Titus listed:*

1. What did Titus say that believers should be and do?

- Be temperate
- Worthy of respect
- Self controlled (this one gets mentioned multiple times)
- Sound in faith, love, and endurance
- Reverent in the way we live
- Do not be slanderous
- Do not be addicted to wine
- Teach what is good
- Be pure
- Be kind
- Do not steal
- Be trustworthy
- Say no to ungodliness and worldly passions

2. Why do you think Titus listed these particular things as the way that believers should be living? Do you disagree with any of the list? If you do disagree, why?

- Could it be that Titus listed these things because they are attributes/characteristics that God exemplifies? We are created in His image, therefore we should be reflecting Who He is.

3. Looking at your life and at Titus' list, how does your life compare? Which things come easiest for you? Which are harder or lacking in your life?**4. Titus also mentions living in such a way that makes the teachings about God and Jesus attractive (Titus 2:9-10). What do you think that means? Why did Titus say this?**

- As followers of Christ, we represent Him. How we live can either draw people to God or further build walls between others and God. It's not about appearance or perfection, but about an authenticity in our pursuit of God that allows others to see who He really is.

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *Really we should strive to live like Titus says because we want to be more like Christ and because we want to represent Christ well to the world.*

APPLICATION

In looking at the list that Titus laid out, what things on the list do you feel are strongly present in your life? What areas do you feel you need work? Let's each pick one area that we will choose to work on over the next week and then we can share next lifegroup how we are doing with that.

