

# Discovery Group - Gospel Living

## (2) Community Life

### Introduction: Read 1 Timothy 3:14-16

- \* What does this passage say about the church?

### **A**ccountability

Share how your obedience commitment from last week went, and who you shared with.

### **B**ible: Titus 2:1-15

Read *passage* aloud & someone retell in their own words

- What do we learn from this passage about God?
- What do we learn from this passage about people?

Read the *article* on the next page.

- How are older men taught to live? Older women?
- How are young people taught to live? Slaves?
- Why is it so important that we teach and live like this?

### **C**ommit

What is Jesus calling you to do in *obedience* this week?

Who can you *share* this with? Who can you reach out to in order to make disciples?

*Abide*: Read and meditate on the following passages this week:

1 Timothy 2-3      Titus 2.

## Community Life

There is a certain way we are supposed to live as part of God's church. According to 1 Timothy 3, the Church is His household, and there are expectations regarding how members of this family do things. This includes specific standards for various roles in the Church. "I am writing these things so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God." It goes on to describe the Church as the pillar and foundation of truth. When we are living in accordance with God's will for the Church, we are proclaiming truth to the world simply by the way we live our lives.

Like 1 Timothy, our passage in Titus gives direction regarding how members of God's Church are to live. Paul gives very straightforward instructions for people within the household of God. There are teachings for older men and women, for younger men and women, and for slaves. Slaves were a common part of households at this time, and Paul addresses them as members of God's family. He instructs them in how to honor Jesus in their situation without condoning the practice of slavery. Paul exhorts Titus to teach these things with authority. He wants no one to ignore them. They are important. Essential.

Throughout this section, God's Word makes it clear that there is a purpose in insisting on this way of life. Consider the following: Younger women are to be self-controlled, kind, and submissive to their husbands "*so that no one will malign the Word of God.*" Titus must show integrity in his speech "*so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.*" Slaves are to serve their masters well "*so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.*"

The lives of Jesus' followers give credibility to the Word of God - or they do the opposite. This impacts how people see Jesus and how they respond to the Gospel. The way we as believers live is a revelation of Jesus to the world. We are showing what He is like. This is incredibly significant! Remember that the Church is the foundation of truth. Truth is not simply a list of things we believe, but it is also a set of behaviors; a way of living. When we live according to these instructions, we are living as pillars of truth in front of a watching world.