

Bible Study Lesson: Leaders of Integrity and Sound Faith - 03052026

Focal Scripture (NIV – Titus 1:5–9)

5 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might put in order what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

6 An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient.

7 Since an overseer manages God’s household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain.

8 Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined.

9 He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

Lesson Objectives

- Understand Paul’s instructions for appointing elders and leaders in the church.
- Recognize the qualities of integrity, discipline, and sound doctrine required for spiritual leadership.
- Reflect on how these principles apply to all believers, not just leaders.
- Connect the call to integrity and discipline with Daniel’s faithfulness (Daniel 1:8–17) and Paul’s exhortation to train in godliness (1 Timothy 4:7–8).

Verse Breakdown and Insights

- Verse 5: Paul emphasizes order and leadership—elders are appointed to guide and strengthen the church.
- Verse 6: Family life reflects spiritual leadership—faithfulness and discipline begin at home.
- Verse 7: Overseers must avoid arrogance, anger, addiction, violence, and greed—character matters more than position.
- Verse 8: Positive qualities include hospitality, love for good, self-control, holiness, and discipline—leaders model Christlike living.

- Verse 9: Leaders must hold firmly to sound doctrine, encouraging believers and defending truth against false teaching.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it important for church leaders to be blameless in both personal and public life?
2. How does family life reflect a leader's ability to guide God's household?
3. Which negative traits in verse 7 are most dangerous for spiritual leadership today?
4. How can believers cultivate the positive qualities listed in verse 8?
5. Why is holding firmly to sound doctrine essential for both leaders and members of the church?

Memory Verse

Titus 1:9 (NIV): He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

Why This Lesson Prepares Us for Daniel 1:8–17 and 1 Timothy 4:7–8

- Daniel 1:8–17: Daniel resolved not to defile himself, showing discipline and integrity—qualities echoed in Titus 1.
- 1 Timothy 4:7–8: Paul urges believers to train themselves in godliness, which has eternal value—similar to the call for leaders to be disciplined and holy.
- Together, these passages highlight that integrity, discipline, and sound faith are essential for leadership and daily Christian living.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Word that teaches us the importance of integrity, discipline, and sound doctrine. Help us to live blameless lives, to love what is good, and to hold firmly to Your truth. Strengthen us to encourage others and to stand firm against falsehood. May we, like Daniel, remain faithful, and may we train ourselves in godliness for Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Fill-in-the-Blank Worksheet (Participant Version)

Bible Study Worksheet: Titus 1:5–9 (NIV)

Focus Scripture

“An elder must be _____, faithful to his _____, a man whose children _____ and are not open to the charge of being wild and _____.” (v.6)

“Since an overseer manages God’s _____, he must be _____—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to _____, not violent, not pursuing dishonest _____.” (v.7)

“He must hold firmly to the _____ message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound _____ and refute those who oppose it.” (v.9)

Lesson Objectives

1. Understand Paul’s instructions for appointing _____ in the church.
2. Recognize the qualities of _____, discipline, and sound _____ required for leadership.
3. Reflect on how these principles apply to _____ believers.

Verse Breakdown

- Verse 5: Paul emphasizes _____ and leadership.
- Verse 6: _____ life reflects spiritual leadership.
- Verse 7: Overseers must avoid arrogance, anger, _____, violence, and greed.
- Verse 8: Positive qualities include _____, love for good, self-control, holiness, and discipline.
- Verse 9: Leaders must hold firmly to sound _____.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it important for church leaders to be _____ in both personal and public life?
2. How does _____ life reflect a leader’s ability to guide God’s household?

3. Which negative traits in verse 7 are most dangerous for spiritual leadership today?

Memory Verse

Fill in the blanks:

“He must hold firmly to the _____ message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound _____ and refute those who oppose it.” (Titus 1:9)

Connection to Daniel & 1 Timothy

- Daniel 1: Daniel resolved not to _____ himself, showing discipline and integrity.
- 1 Timothy 4: Believers are urged to train themselves in _____.
- Titus 1: Leaders must be _____, disciplined, and sound in _____.