

STUDY GUIDE: “Gospel Culture”

Titus 1

Discussion Starters

1. How are Christians supposed to engage the culture they live in? (Separate, Assimilate, etc.?)
2. Why is a leader in the church held to a higher moral standard?

Study

3. In preparation for this study read: Romans 12:2, 1 John 2:15-17, 1 Timothy 3:1-16

To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Concordance. Strong's Concordance is a good tool and [Blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org) is a good tool to use for online study. I have also included Strong's Reference numbers to assist you. The letter before the reference pertains to the original language (H-Hebrew, G-Greek).

If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

4. Define the following words or terms. Note for each of them how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

--“above reproach” (Titus 1:6, Strong's Reference # g410)—

--“hospitable” (Titus 1:8, Strong's Reference # g5382)—

--“holding fast” (Titus 1:9, Strong's Reference # g472) —

--“devout” (Titus 1:8, Strong's Reference # g3741) —

--“self-controlled” (Titus 1:8, Strong’s Reference # g1468)—

Read Titus 1:1-16

5. What is happening in the church in Crete that made Paul re-establish guidelines for church leaders? (Use a Concordance or Bible Dictionary for context)

6. Read through the qualifications for elders. Are there any of them that you are confused about? Are there any that you disagree with? Why do you think God used Paul to place those guidelines on an elder for that time in Crete?

7. Why does Paul use the quote of a Cretan poet to describe the Ancient Cretan culture? What does this tell you about Paul’s urgency for the church to see the characteristics of the ancient Cretan culture?

Taking It Home

8. What steps will you take this week to make sure that you are living by God’s standards and not the standard that our culture sets?

9. Are you living in a way that communicates the gospel to the people in your life? What are some ways that you can improve this?

For follow up study of the sermon on March 10, 2019

North Orange Christian Church, 2019