

Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: abfboone.com/sermon-archive
 - Find Life Group resources: abfboone.org/groups/resources
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Titus 2:15-3:2

[15] Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you. [1] Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, [2] to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

Sermon Outline:

1. How Titus Teaches (2:15)
 2. How Christians Act (3:1-2)
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Life Group Leader Notes:



Weekly Discussion Guide

- Political conversations can be tricky in our heated, polarized environment. As you lead the discussion this week, make sure that you stay focused on the biblical text. It might be wise to set some ground rules for the conversation. The introduction of the sermon highlighted a recent trend to disparage our president. Where else do you see people choosing politics over Christian purity? Do you see this tendency in yourself? What will happen to a Christian who instinctively chooses politics over purity?

- Pastor Scott briefly mentioned the Cretans' hatred toward the Romans. When Paul planted the church, he taught them to be submissive to the rulers. Now in Titus 3, he reminds them *again* to be submissive. In other words, submission is basic Christianity. If you were to jot down a small list of basic commands to a new believer, what types of behaviors would you describe? Would submission to authorities be on that list?

- Submission to authorities is all over the New Testament. Perhaps it would be good to read and consider the various texts that were referenced this Sunday. Matthew 22:21; 1 Peter 2:13; Romans 13:1; 1 Timothy 2:1-4. In these texts, *why* are Christians told to be submissive? *How* are they to submit?

- What does it reveal about Christians when we respond to ungodliness in an ungodly manner? How can we practically disagree with ungodly policies in a godly manner?

- Paul charged the Cretan believers to be ready for *every good deed*. How can Christians practically do this in the High Country? What are some practical ways to be godly citizens? Write a list of ideas and have someone in your group follow up on some of these opportunities to serve.

- Paul prohibited the Cretans from maligning anybody. They were to restrain from their natural inclination to speak evil against other people. Do you struggle with this? Have you grown in this area with the help of the Holy Spirit? Take some time to consider the biblical passages on the impact of our speech: Colossians 3:8; Colossians 4:5-6; Ephesians 4:29. How can you apply those texts this week?

- Paul told Timothy to preach with all authority. When you hear a sermon, do you receive it as a word from the Lord? How can we prepare our hearts to receive God's word on Sunday mornings? Do you pray for your pastors to remain faithful and to boldly preach the word of God *with all authority*? What would happen to a church if a pastor refused to preach with authority? What would happen to a church if the people refused to submit to the authority of the word?

