



## **Titus 2:1-6**

**Truth #4** - Discipleship leads to growth

**Doctrine #4** - The doctrine of Sanctification

**Principle #4** - Peripatetic and intentional discipleship

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Jesus was a peripatetic teacher and discipler. This means that He mainly taught His disciples *while on the move*, rather than in a classroom. In this way, He drew upon the agricultural and fishing sights they walked past to illustrate many of the spiritual truths about the Kingdom of God. But *peripatetic* teaching and discipleship doesn't always mean you have to go for an outdoor walk through the countryside. It can happen in your kitchen, your garage, your backyard, your workplace, or your lounge room, for example.

1. What did Paul instruct Titus to teach the Cretans? (Titus 2:1)

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But Paul didn't expect Titus to carry the teaching load alone.

2. Who else did Paul expect that Titus would train to carry the teaching load?  
(Note Titus 2:2-3)

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3. What six qualities did Paul tell Titus that *the older men* of the church should possess to qualify as teachers to the younger men? (Titus 2:2)

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Further on in this epistle to Titus the Apostle Paul will lay out the qualifications for an elder which will build upon these requirements.

4. What three qualities did Paul tell Titus that *the older women* of the church should possess to qualify as teachers of the younger women? (Titus 2:3)

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The journey of Christian growth is called *discipleship*. To be a follower of Christ is to be a *disciple*. A disciple is a learner. The discipleship journey also involves moving increasingly toward Christlikeness. This is called *sanctification*.

5. What did Paul tell Titus that these older women should teach the younger women according Titus 2:4-5? Why?

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6. What should older Christian women teach younger Christian women today? How does this correlate to what Paul said in Titus 2:4-5?

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7. What might Paul have expected the older men to teach the younger men? (Start with Titus 2:6 and then suggest other things.)

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How do we as a local church today connect older men with younger men, and older women with younger women? Is there a need for it?

## **The Doctrine of Sanctification**

There are three viewpoints about the doctrine of sanctification. Firstly, there is the viewpoint that sanctification is the growth of the believer into increasing Christlikeness, and that this goal is unattainable. Secondly, there is the viewpoint that sanctification is what God does in the believer and will be fully realised in the believer in the resurrection. Thirdly, there is the viewpoint that sees sanctification as an existential process (something we experience) whereby the Holy Spirit convicts the believer of sin and leads them to repent and to be increasingly transformed in how they pray, speak, think, spend their time/energy/money, and interact with others. And while this is an ongoing process it is also *a legal status*. That is, in the eyes of God the child of God is already *sanctified* since they are in Christ and destined to be transformed into the image and likeness of Christ (Romans 8:29).

## **The Principle of Peripatetic and Intentional Discipleship**

Have you ever learnt something from someone who didn't know they were teaching you something? As you journey with the Holy Spirit He will increasingly give you a hunger to learn. For most of us, most of our learning will *not* take place in a classroom. Rather it will take place within the events of everyday life. God will bring people into your life, across your path, and virtually, whom God will use to sanctify you. For me, one of the most profound sanctifying agents has been my increased familiarity with Dr. F.W. Boreham. I am becoming more like Christ because of his influence in my life. Who has God used in a similar way in your life?

8. Do you intentionally disciple someone and if so, how?

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## **Prayer**

*Father,*

*Thank You for saving and sanctifying us. Thank You Lord for sending people into our lives whom You have used to challenge and correct us. Help each of us to be instruments in Your hands to help others to become more Christlike. Enable us to live with an increased sense of Your presence and to be an example of what a repentant, tender-hearted disciple looks like. Grant us the wisdom to teach those who are younger to us the skills and knowledge that they need to grow closer to You. In Jesus' Name we pray,*

*Amen.*