



by Linda Minnick

The Gap

A. Reason for Titus' instruction to the people

Titus 1:4-9, 2:1-15, 3:5, 8

- fitting for sound doctrine*
- so that the word of God will not be dishonored*
- so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us*
- so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect*

B. Recipients of Titus' Instruction

Titus 2:1 But as for you, [Titus], speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine.

- a. Older men . . .*
- b. Older women likewise . . .*
- c. Likewise urge the young men . . .*

d. Urge bondslaves . . .

C. Reason for the Gap

1. To keep the pastor above reproach

Titus 1:6 Namely, if any man (elder) is above reproach . . .

2. It would be awkward and inappropriate for him to talk about some of these areas

1 Timothy 5:1-2 Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers, the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

3. He cannot teach what he cannot know about or relate to

Bridging the Gap



A. Those Appointed to Bridge the Gap

Titus 2:3 Older women

1. Women of Experience
2. Women Who Have Learned

B. Qualifications for Bridging the gap

Titus 2:3 Older women likewise are to be reverent (godly) in their behavior, not malicious gossips (controlling the tongue) nor enslaved to much wine, (controlling the appetites of the flesh) teaching what is good . . .

“You cannot impart what you do not possess.” – Unknown

- not a long list
- universal
- no permanent disqualifications
- does not have to have a flawless past

reverent in their behavior – Godly – In order to help others toward godliness.

not malicious gossips – Having control of the tongue – essential when getting personally involved in the lives of others.

nor enslaved to much wine – Self-controlled – In order not to inhibit ministry or be a stumbling block (an excuse for others to indulge in the flesh),

teaching what is good – Biblical goodness in character and deed.

C. Bridging the Gap

1. All believers are intended to be engaged in good deeds.

Titus 3:5-8

2. The older women have a specific assignment in the ministry of good deeds.

Titus 2:4 so that they may encourage the young women

- because the list of duties are learned behaviors
- because the women are young, lacking in experience



“When godly Christian women do not infuse the younger generation with the things of God, the church comes to dire straits.” – John MacArthur

D. Curriculum for Bridging the Gap

Titus 3:45 so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands . . .

1. All in the area of your experience
2. Not asking to teach skills of homemaking
3. Not to take the place of or contradict the pulpit ministry.

Hebrews 13:17



Hebrews 13:7 Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.

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