

Life Group Notes

Sunday 15th January 2023

Speaker: Sean Green

Title: Titus: God's Family

Passage: Titus 1:1-9

Crete in AD63:

Who is Paul? Previously known as Saul of Tarsus, half the content in the book of Acts details his life and works. 14 of the 27 books in the NT have been attributed to him.

Who is Titus? He was Greek, one of Paul's converts, a spiritual son of Paul, a trusted co-worker and apostolic delegate.

Crete & Cretans: Crete is a large island with many harbours which served the surrounding area, it was the perfect place to plant a network of churches. However, corrupt Cretan leaders were ruining the churches with false teaching, so Paul assigned Titus to straighten things out.

Titus 1v1-4: It was customary in those days to start a letter stating who the sender was, the recipient and then a blessing.

v5 Appointing Elders: The way to regulate the churches was to appoint qualified local oversight. Note: Elders plural are appointed and the whole church is involved. Candidates blameless reputation is to be established in three areas:

v6 Marriage & family life: The home as the training ground.

v7-8 Able to lead himself: If they can't control themselves, how can they control the church?

v9 Doctrinal orthodoxy (generally accepted religious beliefs): They are to hold fast to Paul's teaching and be able to confront and overthrow arguments that disagree with the apostle's teaching.

Reading in AD2023:

Bible as our plumbline: for the Christ follower and the life of this church. The bible declares both God's love for His people and His vision for human life.

Newfrontiers/Catalyst: It matters that our elders hold firm to the trustworthy message taught by our apostles and their delegates.

Everyone not just elders: Only a few can serve as elders but all should aspire to the qualifications.

Suggested Questions:

1. What either agreed or jarred with you about the qualifications?
2. In what ways does our apostolic heritage / family tree shape us today?
3. Use v6-9 to pray for everyone at RFC.