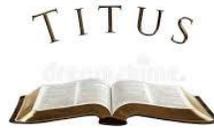




THE POSITIVE



“⁵ For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you— ⁶ if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation(riot) or insubordination (unruly). ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, ⁸ but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, ⁹ holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.”

Update with vision chart of 2026

Titus 2 womens- Debby heading up this team to make sure the ladies of our church are involved in: Encouragement, Discipleship & Outreach

Titus 2 men’s-

Teens and Youth- Adam is developing a team—Maggie- AWANA commander

Seniors- A Senior Moment

Family- Dean Breakfast team

Mission’s team- Bruce & Angela

It’s not about programs, it’s about relationships.

There is no competition- we are all valuable and have specific gifts to go with our calling.

Positive

- ✓ Christian character qualities to acquire- **God powered**
- ✓ Present tense on all of these qualifications
- ✓ No one is perfect in all of these areas

III.- Isness (emotions) or oughtness (Biblical truth)

<https://biblicalcounseling.com/resource-library/podcast-episodes/whats-wrong-with-living-by-emotions/>

Well, the first thing I would say is emotions are God given and good. We as biblical counselors are not opposed to emotions. We want to make sure we're using them for that which God has designed them. The phrase that I've adopted has been most helpful for me is they're instruments of measurement. And as such, by design and by definition, they report two made up words here, "isness," not "oughtness." They're thermometers, not thermostats. They're gauges, not guides. So they report the temperature of one's soul as it interacts with circumstance.

If I can, maybe just one example, God Himself asked Jonah twice in Jonah chapter four, do you do well to be angry? So God, He's seen the anger. It's a window into Jonah's soul. And He's asking Jonah about, I would say, the desires or expectations and Jonah's interpretations that are behind them. So the emotions are God given and good. They report isness. They report the temperature of his soul, but they do not tell Jonah how he ought to live. He has to go somewhere else for oughtness. ... **And the last one, the fifth one I would say is it's slavery to me. The more I feed my emotions, the more I'm bound to them, the greater they grow in terms of oughtness, right? If they're a measuring, if they're a thermometer, I grew up when there was a thermometer on one side of the room and a thermostat on the other, right? Nobody yelled at the thermometer. You went over and changed the thermostat. But if we keep talking to the thermometer, we're not actually going to, we're going to miss where we can actually grow and change. So it becomes slavery to me to live under them.**

THE POSITIVE

✓ Hospitable (a lover of hospitality)



Hospitable in other translations - a lover of strangers (YLT), He must enjoy having guests in his home (NLT), An elder must be ready to help others by accepting them into his home (ICB), fond of showing hospitality (Wuest), opening his house freely to guests (BBE)

Hospitable (philoxenos - **fee-LOX-en-os** from phílos = friend, to be friendly to one or to wish him well, beloved, dear + xenos = stranger, unknown, foreign or foreigner, alien, guest) is literally "stranger loving" or a friend of strangers, showing them care and kindness.

Practically philoxenos means fond of guests and so hospitable or given to (lover of) hospitality. It describes one who is given to generous, welcoming and cordial reception of visitors, guests or strangers. It means to give practical help to anyone who is in need (friend or stranger, believer or unbeliever) Hospitality was a highly valued Greek and Jewish virtue. It was absolutely necessary for the expansion of the gospel and necessary for the maintenance of the fellowship within the church as well as the image of the church from without.

III.- dinner together x 3

Hospitable is from Medieval Latin hospitāre = to receive as a guest which in turn is from Latin hospes = guest.

1 Peter 4:9 . Romans 12:13

III. Pastor in barber shop

1. You enjoy having people in your home.

2. You look for people you can help. When you come to church, your radar naturally homes in on new people who look like they need to be taken under someone's wing. Sometimes it seems like you just stumble into people who need a place to stay. Actually, it's not a coincidence at all; it's your gift manifesting itself wherever you go.

3. You don't feel you have to apologize for messy rooms.

4. You aren't shocked when people show up on your doorstep at any hour of the day or night. You expect it, it doesn't bother you, and you don't feel imposed upon.

5. You have the knack for making people feel at home.

Roadblocks: we are too busy.

This is no doubt the main reason we don't practice hospitality more than we do.

Roadblock: thinking you have to be rich to show hospitality.

III. Haiti

Here's how to get started to be a lover of hospitality.

1. Go out of your way to meet five new people today.

Every Sunday we have visitors to our services. Will you take some time to meet them? But it doesn't have to be just the visitors. You can say hello to people you've seen before but haven't met. That's a simple step but it is so important. Hospitality begins by being willing to meet people you haven't met before.

2. Invite someone to your home.

They don't have to come today, but why don't you issue an invitation for someone to come to your home this week or the week after that. Invite them over for ice cream or for hamburgers.

3. Call someone you haven't talked to in a long, long time.

It could be an old friend you haven't called in years. It may be someone who used to be a close friend but somehow you've lost touch with each other. It might be someone you need to call in order to clear up some past misunderstandings. It could be a mother, a father, a brother or a sister, a hometown friend, or someone else whose name comes to mind.

The Table with an Empty Chair - One missionary family always kept an empty chair at their table "for whoever the Lord brings." Over the years, that empty chair hosted widows, students far from home, lonely soldiers, and wandering souls. Many came to know Christ simply because someone had space for them. An empty chair can preach the gospel louder than a sermon.

- Hospitality is the gospel with hands and feet.
- A stranger's need is a believer's invitation from God.
- You may be the first kindness someone has experienced in years.
- Open doors can open hearts.
- Hospitality is "grace served warm."

✓ A lover of what is good (a lover of good men),



Amos 5:15; (Micah 3:2; Isaiah 5:20) 1John 3:14; 5:1,

Philippians 4:8; Romans 12:9- *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.*

Conflict is inevitable in our lives. We don't live in a perfect world. We get specific instructions on how to deal with conflict and how to maintain unity!

must love all that is good (NLT)

[he must be] a lover of goodness [of good people and good things] (Amp)

a lover of all good things and all good people (Barclay)

Paul wrote that "while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith. (Galatians 6:10)

✓ Sober-minded



use good judgment (GWT)

He must live wisely (NLT)

prudent (NRSV)

a man who is discreet (Phillips)

serious minded (BBE)

MacArthur adds that this man "does not allow circumstances or the immorality or foolishness of the world to distract him and gain his attention and interest. He not only does not become involved in things that are outright immoral and unspiritual but also avoids things that are trivial, foolish, and unproductive. He knows his priorities and is devoted to them." (MacArthur. Titus: Moody Press)

Wiersbe on soberminded: "**This does not mean he has no sense of humor**, or that he is always solemn and somber. Rather it suggests that he knows the value of things and does not cheapen the ministry or the Gospel message by foolish behavior." (From Wiersbe's commentary on 1 Timothy)

Ill. Fireball Bryce and wheelchair rides

Ill. Reggie!

In the mind of the Apostle Paul, this was an important quality in a leader. He used this word ten times in his short letters to Timothy and Titus.

Just, holy, self-controlled: A pastor or leader in the church must be just (right toward men), holy (right towards God), self-controlled (right towards himself).

Ill. Mom's words when roughhousing

✓ **Just**



Righteous (YLT)
upright (NIV)
He must live right (ICB)
fair minded (Phillips)
Just in all his dealings (Clarke)
upright in his dealings with men (Hiebert)

This word sometimes means righteous, but in this context, it probably refers to a man who is fair and equitable in his dealings with others. He is not partial to the wealthy and he doesn't ignore or belittle the poor. He is able to weigh the facts of a matter and make impartial decisions based on the evidence.

Favoritism

Ill. My son

Ill. Preferring people who give more

John gives us a Scriptural "definition" of dikaios **dee-KAH-yos** writing "Little children, let no one deceive ([present imperative with a negative](#) see [our need to depend on the Holy Spirit to obey](#)) you; the one who practices ([present tense](#)= habitually, as a lifestyle) righteousness is righteous (dikaios), just as He is righteous (dikaios). ([1 John 3:7+](#))

✓ Holy



moral (GWT)
pious (DNT)
saintly (Weymouth)
a devout man and religiously correct (Amp)
Holy in his heart (Clarke)
unstained (Wiersbe)
pure, unpolluted, free from the stain of sin (Hiebert)

Hosios **HO-see-os** refers to practical holiness, being separate from sin and evil behavior. It does not mean being separate from sinners, because the Lord Jesus was the friend of sinners. But the devout man does not carouse with sinners in their sin. Rather, he seeks to lead them to repentance. The devout man takes God and the Word of God seriously. He doesn't take the things of God as a joke. He lives in obedience to God's Word.

III. A struggle growing up- two standards

Language, crude jokes, dirty talking, music, movies, entertainment, morality, drunkenness, anger, gossip.

✓ self-controlled (temperate),



- Acts 24:25, Gal 5:23, 2 Peter 1:6

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; ⁶and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; ⁷and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. ⁸For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall* neither *be* barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ

Disciplined (NIV)

he must be able to control himself (ICB)

They must be... level headed (TLB)

temperate and keeping himself in hand (Amplified)

Barclay comments that the self-control "does not contemplate a situation in which a man is emasculated of all passion; it envisages a situation in which his passions remain, but are under perfect control and so become his servants, not his tyrants. (Daily Study Bible)

Paul uses this word (1 Corinthians 9:25) to refer to an athlete who exercises self-control in all things so that he may win the wreath. He doesn't do anything that would hinder him from his goal. An elder must have control over harmful desires or habits that would interfere with knowing Christ more deeply or with being an effective shepherd of God's flock. He will be disciplined about spending time alone with God in the Word and prayer. This word is the last of the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:23-), which grow in us as we walk daily by means of the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-).

III. Video game pastor

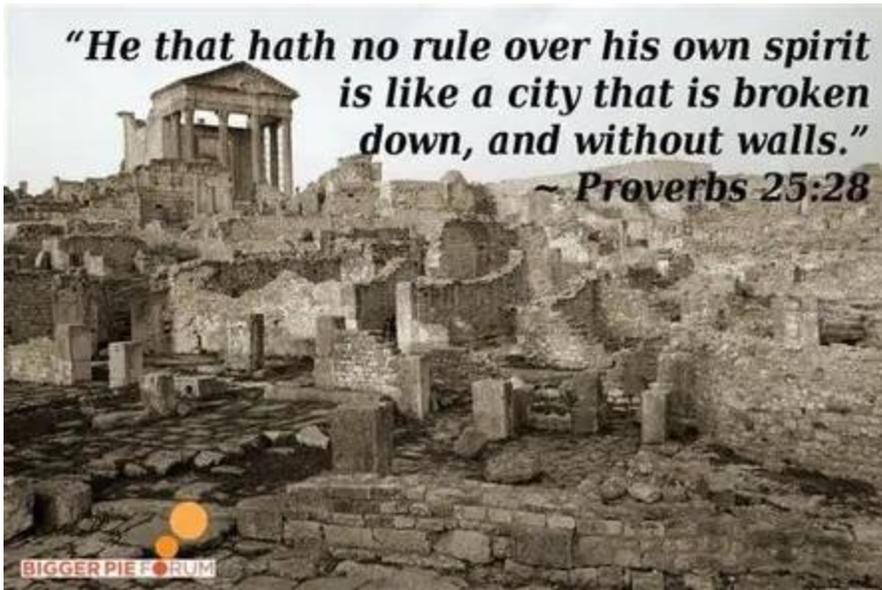
“How unfit are those to govern a church who cannot govern themselves!”
(Matthew Henry)

Devotional life, eating, exercising, the flesh, the eyes, pride, etc.

Secular Greek uses self-control of the virtue of an emperor who never lets his private interests influence the government of his people. It is the virtue which makes a man so master of himself that he is fit to be the servant of others.

¹¹ Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, ¹² having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by *your* good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.- 1 Peter 2

Chrysostom (lived in the 400's) says the self-controlled individual is "**One having his passions, tongue, hand and eyes, at command**"



Self-control means building the will to say "no" ([Romans 8:13](#)-) when a powerful appetite inside you screams "yes". Self-control is a lifelong course (called sanctification) in learning attitudes and responses that do not come naturally and channeling natural appetites toward God's purposes.

John MacArthur comments that "Walking in the Spirit is allowing Him to pervade your thoughts. It is saying, when you get up in the morning, "Holy Spirit, it is Your day, not mine. Use it as You see fit." It is saying throughout the day, "Holy Spirit, continue to keep me from sin, direct my choices and my decisions, use me to glorify Jesus Christ." It is putting each decision, each opportunity, each temptation, each desire before Him, and asking for His direction and His power. Walking in the Spirit is dynamic and practical. It is not passive resignation but active obedience... the amazing thing about being under control of the Spirit is that you don't even have to ask questions, you just operate within the will of God. One way to get a practical handle on the Spirit-filled life is to see it as living every single moment in the conscious presence of Jesus Christ.

"⁵ For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you— ⁶ if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation(riot) or insubordination (unruly). ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, ⁸ but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, ⁹ holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict."