



BIG IDEA

Leaders show others what God is like through their character.

BIBLE

Titus 1:1-9

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Paul tells Titus what kind of people should lead the church—people who are honest, self-controlled, and strong in their faith. Even if we're not leaders now, we're all an example to someone.

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

HOOK – Have you ever had someone that you looked up to and admired for their character?

- Have you ever had a coach, teacher, or someone older than you who made a big impact on your life – not because they were the most talented, but because of who they were?
- Maybe they were kind, consistent, or just someone who actually lived what they talked about.
- Now think about the opposite. Someone in charge who said one thing, but lived another. How did that effect the way you viewed that person?
 - Were you disappointed or let down?
 - Did you lose trust in that person?
- That's the kind of leadership Paul is writing about in the book of **Titus**. And even if you don't think of yourself as a leader yet—*you are*. Someone is always watching: your friends, your siblings, your classmates. The question isn't if you're a leader—it's *what kind of leader are you becoming?*

CONTEXT RECAP:

- Paul wrote this letter to Titus, a young leader on the island of **Crete**, a place full of selfishness, dishonesty, and chaos.
- Paul's challenge? Help organize the church and raise up **godly leaders** who could guide others through their example.
- Today we're going to study Titus 1:1-9 together, but I want to give us a quick overview first.

Titus 1:1–9 Highlights:

- In verses 6–9, Paul gives a list of what godly leadership looks like:
 - Emotionally mature (not quick to anger or impulsive)
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- Self-controlled
- Not using people for power or money
- Spiritually mature and rooted in truth
- Loving what's good, holding tightly to God's Word

Paul is clear: **Good character matters more than good talent.** The way you *live* teaches others what you believe.

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

- **We live in a world a lot like Crete**—confused about right and wrong, full of people doing what's best for themselves.
- But Paul says: **God's people should stand out. Not by being louder, but by living differently.** By showing that we're grounded in something more solid than popularity or power.
- You may not feel like a leader, but someone is watching you.
 - So the question becomes: *What is your life teaching people about Jesus?*

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

As you and your group read through Titus today, I want you to think through this lens:

- You don't have to be perfect. But you do need to be intentional.
 - How are your habits forming your character?
 - What kind of person are you becoming?
 - Are your actions making Jesus more believable or more confusing to the people around you?
 - Because Godly leaders show others what God is like through their character.

Closing // Set up discussion

- Each of you is a leader in some way, shape, or form.
 - The question is how are you leading others?
 - Now today's conversation is going to require you to really think since most of us aren't church leaders, but everything that Paul teaches Titus can inform how we live today in whatever context we find ourselves in.
 - Let's pray—and then we'll jump into the discussion.
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