







Materials I Need:
Legend:  = Option 1, Appropriate for 1 st – 2 nd Grade  = Option 2, Appropriate for 3 rd – 6 th Grade
Memory Work: “Since an overseer is entrusted with God’s work, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain.” Titus 1:7 (NIV)

Hook:

Choosing a Good Leader (Discussion/Activity). ,  Obtain a driver’s license manual before class. Tell the students that they are privileged this morning because they are about to learn all they need to know about driving a motor vehicle, so they will be able to pass their driver’s license test. Tell them that they will learn how to operate a vehicle and to skillfully drive their automobiles between home and school or to any place they desire. Show them the driver’s license manual and explain that all they need to know is found in this manual. Tell them the only thing needed is someone who could teach us the manual. Ask the class for a volunteer or prearrange with a student to come up in front of the class and tell the students that he or she will be their instructor. Ask the students if they think that the student instructor could teach or demonstrate to them how to skillfully and safely drive an automobile. Ask what they think would be the qualifications of a good instructor. Transition to the lesson by explaining that Paul wrote to Titus whom he had left on the island of Crete. Titus was to appoint qualified leaders (elders) over the churches. Paul told Titus to select those who had special qualifications. Tell them that today they are going to learn what those qualifications are.

Hey, Coach? (Activity). ,  The point of this activity is to demonstrate the difference between a good coach and a bad coach. This should help the students understand the importance of godly leadership in the church. Have one of the teachers pretend to be a great basketball coach. You may want to bring up several student volunteers that he or she can coach. The “coach” should be teaching them things that aren’t right about basketball (carrying the ball like a football; failing to dribble; etc.). Then bring up someone who really knows what they’re talking about in regard to basketball. Have this real “coach” show them the proper way to play basketball (you may change the sport to a sport with which one of your teachers is more familiar).

Debrief: The point of this activity is to show the students the importance of having leaders who not only talk the right talk, but also walk the right walk. Just as a coach needs to be able to demonstrate how to play a sport through their own actions, a leader in the church must model for the body how to live one’s Christian life. Ask the students questions, such as:

1. How important is it for a coach to know how to play the sport?
2. Which coach would you want to play for? Why or why not?”

Who's Your Hero? (Discussion). 🦋, 🦋 Ask the students if any of them would like to share with the class who their hero is and why. Allow several volunteers to share. Then ask the class what makes a hero a hero. Then ask them, "If Paul or Titus were here, who do you think their hero would be and why?" Discuss with the students that we tend to become like our heroes. We talk like them, want to dress like them, act like them, and do the things they do because ultimately, we want to be like them. Then ask them: "Knowing this, who would God want us to have as our Christian hero?"

Corruption (Object Lesson). 🦋, 🦋 You will need:
two clear drinking glasses
water
soy sauce
crushed garlic

Tell the students that there were leaders in Crete who claimed to know God but these leaders had obvious sin in their lives. Explain to them that a person can't be 'mostly good' and still maintain a small amount of sin in his life. A little bit of sin and rebellion contaminates (spoils) everything a person thinks and does.

To illustrate this, a teacher will need two clear drinking glasses. Fill one with clear water. Fill the other one with water and add a small amount of soy sauce and crushed garlic. Show both glasses to the students. They can be allowed to assume that the second glass contains "dirty water." Ask students which glass they would be willing to drink from. Now pour a small amount of the "dirty water" into the clear water. Ask who would be willing to drink from this glass now. There is only a little bit of "dirty water" in the clear water, but it still ruins the whole glass! You may want to admit to students that the "dirty water" is really harmless, but stress how a little sin spreads. A leader with a little sin can infect the whole group. Tell the students that in today's Bible Adventure, Paul addresses the importance of purity in those who lead: "To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted" (Titus 1:15).

Who is Titus? (Small Group Activity/Relay). 🦋 Explain to the students that Titus, the recipient of this letter, is briefly mentioned several times in the New Testament. Have this list of passages written on the board (they are in chronological order): Galatians 2:1-3, 2 Corinthians 2:13, 2 Corinthians 7:5-7, 2 Corinthians 8:16-19, 8:23, Titus 1:4-5, 2 Timothy 4:10. Divide the class into small groups at tables. Provide paper and pencil at each table. Head the papers with two columns. One column for "Things Titus Did" and one column for "Descriptions of Titus" (what he was called). Have small groups work together to look up these verses and make two lists. List the "things Titus did" and then list "descriptions of Titus". You can make this a competition. The first group to finish and have at least six items in each list is the winner.

Things Titus did

Went to Jerusalem with Paul (and Barnabas)
Comforted Paul by coming to Macedonia
Told Paul of the Corinthians' love for him
Visited the church in Corinth
Carried the offering for Jerusalem
Stayed in Crete after Paul left
Went to Dalmatia

Descriptions of Titus

A Greek
My (Paul's) brother
Partner
Fellow worker
Representative of the church
Honor to Christ
My (Paul's) true son in our common faith



Who Would I Be? (Discussion). 🎨, 🦋 Ask the students who they would be if they could be someone else who is alive today. After they have given some answers, make things interesting by asking them:

1. Why?
2. What is it about these other people that make their lives attractive?
3. Is it lots of money or good looks or have they accomplished something great?

Write some of these qualities on the board. Then ask if it is a good idea to pattern ourselves after people we admire. Explain to them that maybe the important thing is to admire the right people. The truth is that we are greatly influenced by the people we look up to. Look at the list on the board. What qualities are worth imitating?



Book:

Presentation Ideas –



Paul and Titus Evangelize on the Island of Crete (Illustration/ Coloring Page). 🎨, 🦋 TIS01.GF1.



Titus Appoints Elders in the Churches (Illustration/Coloring Page). 🎨, 🦋 Titus 1:5, TIS01.GF2.

Bible Adventure for 1st – 6th Grades -

Imagine that it was your job to pull together several different soccer teams to play in a league for the upcoming season. The challenge is that all the players are inexperienced and new to the game. If you just put them onto teams and sent them out to play, it would be disastrous! People would be running every which way, tripping and generally having no clue what to do with the ball. These teams would be in desperate need of one thing—leadership! You would have to carefully select coaches who played the game well and knew how to train others in the many skills required to play soccer. Without good coaches, there would be little hope for a successful season and drawing others to join the league.

In the book of Titus, we will learn about the importance of strong leaders who can train brand new Christians to live godly lives and be successful witnesses for Jesus Christ. The New Testament book of Titus is actually a letter written by the apostle Paul to a young man named (you guessed it) Titus. After Paul was released from prison in Rome (Paul was in prison a lot for preaching about Jesus!), he and Titus traveled to the island of Crete to spread the gospel and minister to new believers. Paul moved on but he left Titus on the island to organize new churches and help guard them against false teachers. Paul wrote him a letter that gave guidelines that would help him in his task. The theme of the book of Titus is *Christian Conduct as a Witness*. What this means is that Paul wanted the believers in the new churches to live their lives in such a way as to draw others to Jesus Christ. Every thing about them, from their speech to their actions, was to point the unbelieving people around them to God and His plan of salvation.

In Titus 1, Paul emphasized that the first order in establishing new churches on Crete was to appoint godly men as leaders. Without godly and gifted leaders, the new churches would struggle to survive and not know what to do (just like your imaginary soccer teams!) Therefore, it was of extreme importance that Titus carefully choose the different men who would lead the churches. Paul referred to church leaders as “elders,” which simply means “an older man.” There are other titles for church leaders in the New Testament—overseers, shepherds, and pastors—but they all refer to the same position.

Cretans (people who lived on the island of Crete) were known for their sinfulness, especially lying. The elders were to be radically different from their fellow citizens. The most important qualification for an elder was that he be “above reproach.” This means that he was to be blameless and have nothing in his life that others would be able grab on to and accuse him of sin. This does not mean that elders were

expected to be perfect but rather that if they had done something wrong, they would take steps to make it right immediately.

Secondly, an elder was to have a strong marriage and family. He was to love his wife with all his heart and his children were to be godly people who faithfully followed the Lord. Looking at an elder's family life would demonstrate what he was really like inside. Today, as in Titus' time, we can learn much about a man's heart and life by watching his marriage and children.

Thirdly, an elder was to be someone who made it his goal to become more and more like Christ. His life was to reflect Christ just as a mirror reflects what a person looks like. He would be responsible for taking care of God's church, and in order to do it in a way that honored the Lord, he was to keep his life pure and free from pride. A proud man who loses his temper easily and likes getting into arguments and fights is not qualified to be God's leader! An elder is to be a man who is kind to strangers, loves what is good, practices self-control, and keeps his heart pure from the contamination of sin.

Paul explained that one of the main jobs of an elder is to protect the church from false teachers. Paul had encountered countless men throughout his ministry who claimed to know Christ but insisted that people had to perform certain works in order to be saved. These false teachers were selfish and greedy and led lives of constant sin. There were many such men in Crete who wanted nothing more than to disrupt the work of God and cause chaos in the new churches. Paul instructed Titus to stop these false teachers in their tracks and not put up with them for even one second. He was to call on the leaders to know the Word of God well and to stand firmly for the truth. They were to protect their people from false teachers who were like wolves waiting to attack a helpless flock of sheep.

Godly leadership is the key ingredient to the health of any church. When godly men lead a church as Christ would lead it that church will grow spiritually and draw lost people to the Lord. Elders need to know God well by intently studying His Word. Then they can recognize and get rid of false teaching thus keeping it from invading the church like a disease invades a person's body.

People in a church become like their leaders just as children become like their parents. They follow their example in attitudes, speech and actions. As you think about the leaders in our church and how they live godly lives, follow their lead and become more like Christ.

Aim Questions

1. **Where did Paul and Titus go after Paul was released after his imprisonment in Rome?** *(The island of Crete.)*
2. **What were the Cretans known for?** *(Lying.)*
3. **Why did Paul leave Titus on Crete?** *(So that he could organize the churches and appoint leaders.)*
4. **What is the theme of Chapter 1?** *(Christian conduct in leaders.)*
5. **Why are godly leaders so important for the church?** *(They help the church to spiritually grow and protect it from error.)*



Look:



aMazing Ministers (Maze Worksheet). 🐛, 🦋 The object of this game is for the students to pass through the good qualifications of an elder and avoid the sin, **TIS01.GF3**.



Leaders to Follow (Worksheet). 🐛, 🦋 Have the students complete this worksheet to learn about godly character qualities that God wants us to possess. Have them figure out which are godly qualities and which are sinful ones and then have them color only the ones that have all three godly qualities specified in each square, **TIS01.GF4**. *Answer: Colored in men should be at all four corners and diagonal from top left to bottom right.*

- Old Cretans (Card Game).** 🎨, 🦋 To make a set of cards to take home each student will need:
TIS01.GF5 Pgs. 1-2 printed onto white cardstock and cut out.
scissors
coloring crayons
zip-lock sandwich bag

Have the students arrange the cards in pairs and color each pair the same color to make matching easy. (The “Cretans” don’t have a “match’.) The rules are found on **TIS01.GF5 Pg. 2.**

- aMazing Leadership (Game).** 🎨, 🦋 Before the class starts set up a maze. This can be done effectively with materials already in the classroom such as chairs, tables, pieces of paper, toys, etc. Have a few volunteers come up as well as a couple of leaders. Have the first student try to make their way through the maze blindfolded. Tell the volunteer that the objects within the maze cannot be touched nor stepped on. Once the student bumps into something or steps onto something he/she is out. Have the next student and a teacher step up to the line. Tell the student that the teacher will lead them through the maze with their voice, so the student must listen closely to the directions of the leader. Have the student start the maze with the leader giving instructions on which way to turn. This leader is a false leader and should lead the student astray. Now have the third student and leader step up to the line. Give the same instructions. This leader will be a true leader and will guide the student through the maze. Afterwards, ask the class which leader they would like to follow—no leader, a false leader, or a good leader. Tell the students that the maze is much like life. There will be obstacles in our way and we will stumble and fall every time without good leadership. What kinds of leaders do you think we have here at FBC? In what ways are you following them? Write the students’ answers on the whiteboard.

- Family Resemblance (Discussion).** 🎨, 🦋 On a blank sheet of paper, have the students write down all the ways they are like their father and mother. They can write down similarities in the following areas—physical appearance, speech, mannerisms, likes and dislikes, values, beliefs, character, etc.
Debrief: Ask the students why they are so similar to their parents? Besides their looks, why does a child act and speak like their mom and dad? Explain to the students that this is the importance of an example. Whether we know it or not, we usually become like those who are most important in our lives. This is why having godly leaders in the church is so vitally important. As they become like Christ, the rest of the church will also become like Him too.

- Defending the Church (Worksheet).** 🎨, 🦋 Have the students complete this worksheet to identify the false teaching or the truth that is being stated by the different characters **1TIS01.GF6.**

- Aim Questions (Worksheet).** 🎨 Have the students answer the Aim Questions about today’s Bible Adventure, **TIS01.GF7.**

- Passage Review Questions (Worksheet).** 🎨, 🦋 This booklet contains many questions from the Scripture passage covered in today’s lesson. Students may work on them in class and complete them during the week at home, **TIS01.GF8 Pgs. 1 & 2.**

- Titus 1:7 (Memory Verse Song).** 🎨 Words and music for today’s memory verse are available upon request from Children’s Ministry.



Took:



“What does the Bible say about...?” (The Gospel Quick Reference Card). 🦋, 🦋 Give this card to the students to place in their Bibles as a reference tool for the Gospel, **TIS01.GF9**. Teach them how to use it—if they have questions about the Gospel, they can look it up and then look up the verses that apply to the question. This way, they will know what the Gospel says, and be prepared to share it with others.



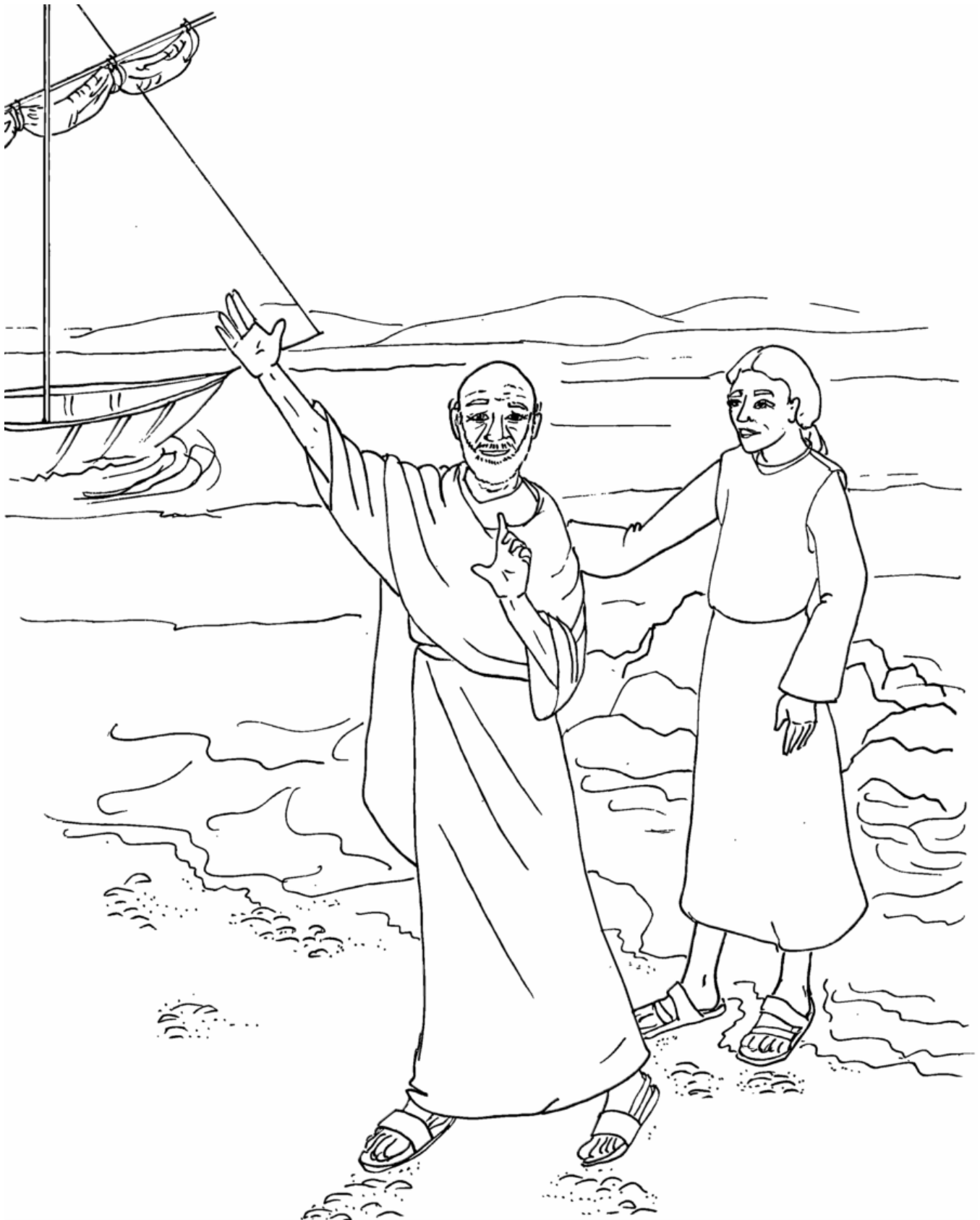
Dressing God’s Leader (Activity/Craft). 🦋 Each student will need:
TIS01.GF10 Pgs. 1 & 2 copied onto white cardstock
scissors
coloring crayons or markers
glue stix

Have the students learn the character qualities of a Godly leader by having them complete this activity.



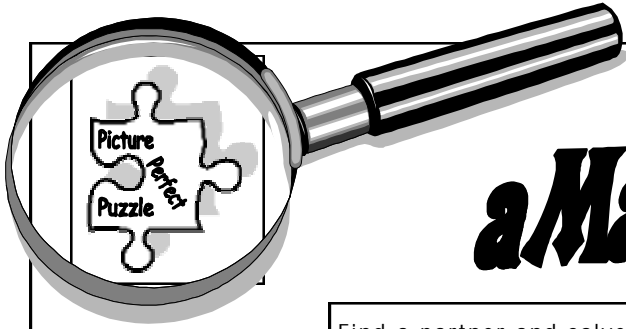
Everyone’s a Poet (Activity/Discussion). 🦋 Epimenides of Knossos was the Cretan poet who wrote “Cretans are always liars, evil brutes (or beasts), lazy gluttons.” His poetry was classic by Paul’s time having been written over 650 years before. Paul quoted this poet because his words were still true. Ask the students that if Epimenides were alive today, how do you think he would describe our culture? Have each small group work together to write a poem describing people in our culture using Epimenides’ poem as a pattern. Ask the students why is it important for believers to choose godly leaders? Whose example will we follow? Example: Our culture tends to be selfish, inconsiderate bullies, mean gossips. (Many descriptive words can be found in Titus chapter 1:10-16). Why is it important for believers to choose Godly leaders in a culture where most people are sinful? We will follow someone’s example. Whose will it be?

Paul and Titus Evangelize on the Island of Crete



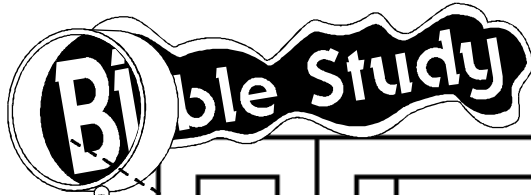
Titus Appoints Elders to the Churches





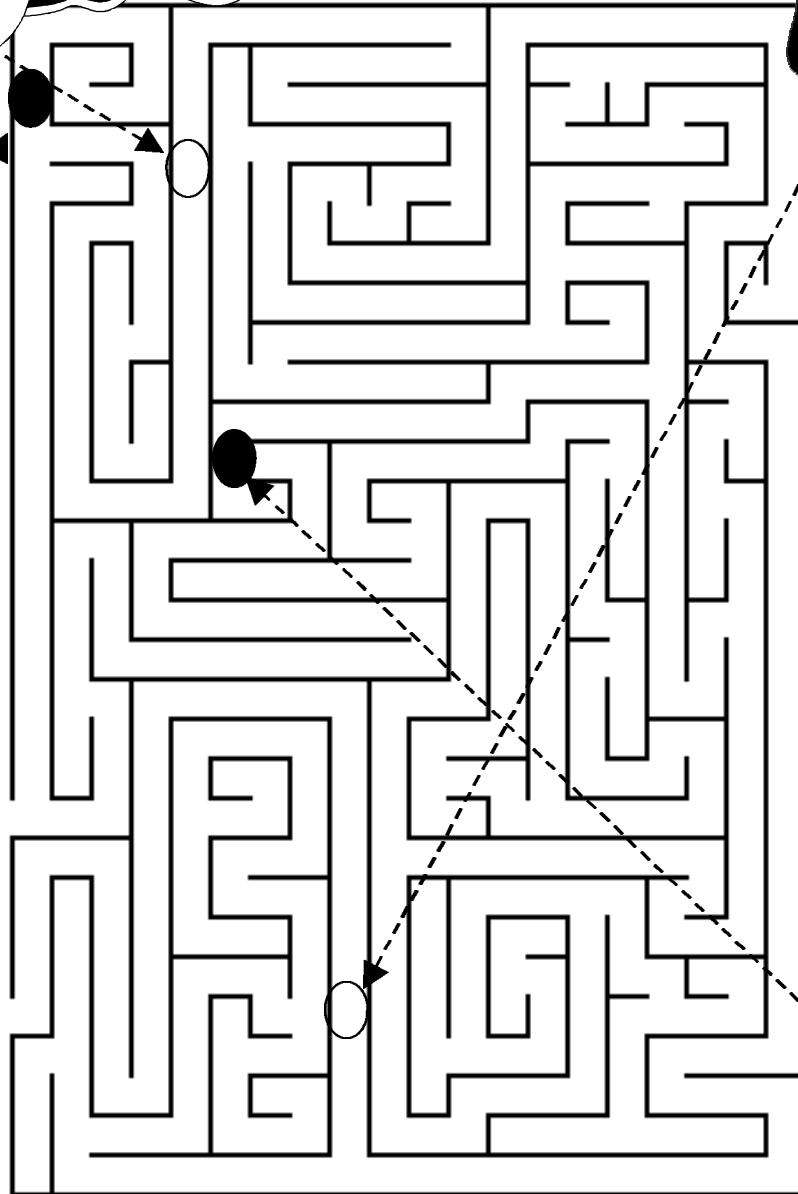
aMazing Ministers

Find a partner and solve the maze below blindfolded. Your partner can guide your hand through the maze but he cannot speak to you. You must pass through the good qualifications of an elder and avoid the sin.



















Enter

Exit



Leaders to Follow

Each of these men has three character qualities listed.
Some have Godly qualities and some have sinful ones. Some are mixed.
Color only the men that have all three godly qualities.

 <p>Blameless Self-controlled Loves what is Good</p>	 <p>Rebellious Actions Deny God Disobedient</p>	 <p>Not Violent Faithful husband a Liar</p>	 <p>Holds Firmly to Gods Word not Greedy Not Violent</p>
 <p>Disciplined Hospitable a Liar</p>	 <p>Fair and Just Hospitable not Selfish</p>	 <p>Disobedient not given to much wine Actions Deny God</p>	 <p>Hospitable Corrupt has Godly children</p>
 <p>Actions Deny God not given to much wine Rebellious</p>	 <p>Corrupt has Godly children Not Violent</p>	 <p>Faithful husband Holy / Pure has Godly children</p>	 <p>Rebellious Disciplined Hospitable</p>
 <p>not Greedy Loves what is Good not Quick Tempered</p>	 <p>Faithful husband has Godly children Actions Deny God</p>	 <p>Corrupt a Liar Disobedient</p>	 <p>not given to much wine Blameless Holds Firmly to Gods Word</p>

OLD
CRETAN
Card Game

(page 1 of 2)

Blameless



Blameless

not Selfish



not Selfish

not Violent



not Violent

Loves what
is Good



Loves what
is Good

Holy / Pure



Holy / Pure

a
Liar



Liar
a

Faithful
husband



Faithful
husband

not Quick
Tempered



not Quick
Tempered

not Greedy



not Greedy

Self-controlled



Self-controlled

Disciplined



Disciplined

Evil Brute



Evil Brute

has Godly
Children



has Godly
Children

not given
to
much wine



not given
to
much wine

Hospitable



Hospitable

Fair and Just



Fair and Just


Holds Firmly
to
God's Word



Holds Firmly
to
God's Word

Rules:
 For 3 to 5 players.
 1. Shuffle and deal all the cards.
 2. Find all pairs and lay them down. (The "Cretans" don't have a match.)
 3. The player who has the most pairs may have the first turn.
 4. At each turn, draw one card from another student's hand. If it does not match a card in your hand, the turn is over.

Blameless




Blameless

not Selfish



not Selfish

not Violent



not Violent

Loves what is Good



Loves what is Good

Holy / Pure



Holy / Pure


(Rules continued)
 5. If there is a match, lay it down. Then you may draw another card from any student's hand OR give an unwanted card to any other student (who must accept it).
 6. If you draw and form another match, you may again draw or give away one card. When you give away a card, your turn is over. Continue play until one player is out of cards. He is the winner!

Faithful husband




Faithful husband

not Quick Tempered



not Quick Tempered

not Greedy




not Greedy

Self-controlled



Self-controlled

Disciplined



Disciplined

Lazy Glutton




Lazy Glutton

has Godly Children




has Godly Children

not given to much wine



not given to much wine

Hospitable




Hospitable

Fair and Just



Fair and Just

Holds Firmly to God's Word



Holds Firmly to God's Word



Defending the Church



As long as you know God, you can do whatever you want.

Don't live self-controlled lives; do whatever feels good to you!

I don't like Jesus and I don't like His church. I want to do my own thing.

I must guard the Lord's church from false teaching with my life. I am a Pastor.

It's ok for you to be wild and disobedient, just have fun!

The church doesn't need Pastors and Elders. We should do whatever we think is best.



Defender of the Faith

Read the verses below to identify the false teaching or the truth above. The verses may be used multiple times for each statement. Write a "T" in the box for a true statement and an "F" for a false statement.

Titus 1:5
Titus 1:9
Titus 1:10

Titus 2:6
Titus 2:11-12

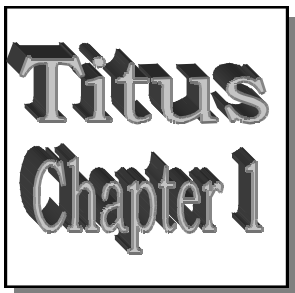


Aim Questions

Answer the following questions about today's Bible Adventure.

1. Where did Paul and Titus go after Paul was released after his imprisonment in Rome?
2. What were the Cretans known for?
3. Why did Paul leave Titus on Crete?
4. What is the theme of Chapter 1?
5. Why are godly leaders so important for the church?

God has appointed godly leaders in the church because the people will become like their leaders as they follow their Christ-like example. As you think about the leaders in our church and how they demonstrate godliness, think about ways that you can become more like your leaders as they become more like Christ.



"Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain."

Titus 1:7

Passage Review Questions

Titus Chapter 1

How does Paul identify himself in this letter to Titus? (1:1)

For what purpose was Paul appointed an Apostle? (1:1)

What does our faith and knowledge rest on? (1:2)

When did God promise eternal life to those who believe? (1:2)

How did God want Paul to communicate the gospel? (1:3)

Who was the book of Titus written to? (1:4)

Why did Paul leave Titus in Crete? (1:5)

What kind of qualifications must an elder meet? (1:6)

What are some things that an elder (or overseer) must not be doing? (1:7)

What does verse 8 say about an elder's character? (1:8)

Why must an elder know God's Word so well? (1:9)

What did Paul say must happen with the rebellious people who were preaching a false gospel? (1:10, 11)

What kinds of things were these rebellious people doing? (1:11)

How does one of the Cretan prophets describe the Cretan people? (1:12)

What did Paul tell Titus to do to insure that the people of the church would not fall prey to these false teachers? (1:13, 14)

How does Paul describe people who are corrupt? (1:15)

The rebellious people claimed to know God but what were they really like? (1:16)

The Gospel

Quick Reference Card

The Sovereign

God has made Himself evident to mankind. He is the Sovereign Creator, therefore He is able to rule and judge His creation. He is perfect and holy and has laid down a perfect moral standard.

- **God Is Creator** ~ Gen. 1:1; Psa. 24:1; Jn. 1:3; Heb. 11:3
- **God Is Sovereign** ~ Psa. 115:3; Job 42:2; Dan. 4:35
- **God Is Holy** ~ Isa. 6:3; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; 1 Sam. 2:2
- **God Is Lawmaker & Judge** ~ Isa. 33:22; Jas. 4:12; Deut. 32:4

The Sin

Man sins and is responsible for it. As a result, sin has separated man from God and has rendered man helpless before God. Man is in a destitute position before his sovereign Creator.

- **Man is a sinner** ~ Gen. 6:5; Isa. 53:6; Rom. 3:10-12, 23
- **Sin separates man from God** ~ Isa. 59:2; Rom. 6:23; 2 Thes. 1:9; Jn 3:36
- **Man cannot save himself** ~ Eph. 2:8-9; Tit. 3:5; Rom. 5:6

The Savior

Jesus Christ is the Son of God and is the only way of salvation for the world. Salvation has been made possible through His sacrificial death. He became sin in our place and now we are able to fellowship with the Father.

- **His Deity** ~ Isa. 9:6; Jn. 1:1, 14; 8:58; Phil. 2:5-6; Col. 2:9
- **His Death** ~ Isa. 53:4-5; Rom. 5:8; 1 Pet. 2:24; Heb. 9:22; Col. 2:13-14
- **He is the Only Way** ~ Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12
- **Salvation Is a Free Gift** ~ Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 6:3

The Summons

The entire person, his intellect, will, and emotions, must surrender to the truth of the Gospel. This is all a work of God!

- **Believe** ~ Jn. 1:12; 3:16; 5:24; Rom. 10:9; Jas. 2:19
- **Repent** ~ Acts 2:38; 17:30-31; Matt. 7:21
- **Come with Humility** ~ Matt. 5:3; Luke 18:13

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Dressing God's Leader

Dress God's leader by cutting out the parts on page two and pasting them in this silhouette.

