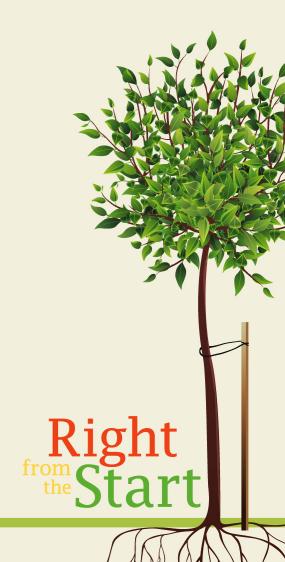


Right From Start



Development of leaders



- Development of leaders
- Affirmation of doctrine



- Development of leaders
- Affirmation of doctrine
- Reminder of purpose



- Development of leaders
- Affirmation of doctrine
- Reminder of purpose
- Identifying 'partners'



- Development of leaders
- Affirmation of doctrine
- Reminder of purpose
- Identifying 'partners'
- Welcoming of everyone





Right from Start

A look of Paul's letter to **Titus**





What is the condition of the church in our culture?





- What is the condition of the church in our culture?
- Are we relevant to those in our community?



- What is the condition of the church in our culture?
- Are we relevant to those in our community?
- Are we relevant to God and what He is all about?



- What is the condition of the church in our culture?
- Are we relevant to those in our community?
- Are we relevant to God and what He is all about?
- Are we willing to surrender our comfort zones in order to be used by God to impact our community?

 Right
 from Start

Titus 1:5-9

Titus 1:5-9

A church needs effective godly leadership who...

Manage their private life well...

Manage their private life well...

demonstrate maturity in their character...

Manage their private life well...

demonstrate maturity in their character... are tenacious with God's Word for the good of all.

Leadership Matrix

of the heart and the mind

Best Case Scenario

Tough-minded Soft-hearted

Hard Case Scenario

Tough-minded Hard-hearted

Soft Case Scenario

Soft-hearted Soft-minded

Worst Case Scenario

Soft-minded Hard-hearted

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...the leadership in some churches does not meet these criteria.

Today

Today

The church in America faces unprecedented pressure, and even persecution, for not being conformed to the world...

Today

...but being conformed to the world, rather than transformed into the image of Christ by His truth, actually abandons people to an inevitable and painful bondage.

- 10 For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party.
- 11 They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach.
- 12 One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."

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Epimenides: legendary Cretan from the 6th or 7th century BC

- 10 For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party.
- 11 They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach.
- 12 One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."
- 13 And this testimony is true.

13 This testimony is true.

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Titus 1:10-16

13 This testimony is t





"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Sawi people of Dutch New Guinea,

<u>Peace Child</u>, the highest cultural value was **treachery**....Judas was the hero of the story
for having turned on Jesus.

Titus 1:10-16 13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Western Culture

Titus 1:10-16 13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Western Culture

Tolerance (wanting community but losing unity)

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Western Culture

Tolerance (wanting community but losing unity)

Personal peace (individualism but also isolationism)

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Western Culture

Tolerance (wanting community but losing unity)

Personal peace (individualism but also isolationism)

Affluence (relative but often disappointing)

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

St. Louis

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

St. Louis

Provincialism (change over my dead body)

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

St. Louis

Provincialism (change over my dead body)

Parochialism (circles that are hard to break out of and into

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

St. Louis

Provincialism (change over my dead body)

Parochialism (circles that are hard to break out of and into)

Prejudice (deep seeded mistrust and division)

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

<u>Crete</u>

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Crete Lying

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Crete

Lying

Mean spirited, brutal

13 This testimony is true.

"Cultural Sins"

that fundamentally undermine the impact and substance of the gospel in a particular setting...

Crete

Lying

Mean spirited, brutal Gluttonous, lazy

13 This testimony is true.

Ancient Greek historian **Polybius** (200 BC-118 BC) t "it is almost impossible to find personal conduct more treacherous or public policy more unjust than in Crete."

Roman politician **Cicero** (106 BC-43 BC) stated in his <u>Republic</u>, "Moral principles are so divergent that the Cretans consider highway robbery honorable."

13 This testimony is true. Therefore...

13 This testimony is true. Therefore...

- 13 This testimony is true. Therefore...rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith,
- 14 not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth.

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Legalism: adding unnecessary works that violate the nature of God's 'grace'

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 - **Legalism**: adding unnecessary works that violate the nature of God's 'grace'
- **License**: subtracting necessary works that reflect the nature of God's **'holiness'**

- 13 This testimony is true. Therefore...rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith,
- 14 not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth.
- 15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled.
- 16 They profess to know God, but they deny Him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

Important 'Quest'ions for us to ask and to answer...

- What is the condition of the church in our culture?
- Are we relevant to those in our community?
- Are we relevant to God and what He is all about?
- Are we willing to surrender our comfort zones in order to be used by God to impact our community?

 Right
 from Start

What about us?

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Today

...but being conformed to the world, rather than transformed into the image of Christ by His truth, actually abandons people to an inevitable and painful bondage.

Leadership Matrix

of the heart and the mind

Best Case Scenario

Tough-minded Soft-hearted

Leadership Matrix

of the heart and the mind

Best Case Scenario

Tough-minded Soft-hearted

You shall know the truth and the truth will set you free.

John 8:32

Leadership Matrix

of the heart and the mind

Best Case Scenario

Tough-minded Soft-hearted

You shall know the truth and the truth will set you free.

John 8:32

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

John 15-13

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