

Be Sensible

Titus 2:2-5 – “Older women...may encourage the young women...to be sensible...”

“Encourage” means literally “to train” - “sensible” can also be translated as “self-controlled”

I. Defined – What are we to be like?

Webster’s Dictionary – “having or showing good sense and judgment”

Unger’s Bible Dictionary – “faculty of mind for perceiving, understanding, judging”

King James Bible – “discreet”

Vines Expository Dictionary – “moderate as to opinion or passion”

So, then, according to Titus 2:5, younger women are to be trained in the area of having good sense and judgment. This implies learning how to live by making good decisions and by good planning, not ruled by emotion—for the purpose of honoring the Word of God.

II. How do we do this?

Romans 12:1-3 – *Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.*

A. Decisive dedication – intentional

B. Be transformed, not conformed

C. Develop sound judgment

III. Developing sound judgment

A. Become wise (applied knowledge to daily life situations)

1. Wisdom originates with God

Proverbs 9:10 – *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*

2. Become wise in the Word of God

Psalm 32:8 – God instructs, teaches, counsels with His personal attention

Isaiah 30:21 – He speaks to us personally, (through His Word) telling us where to go and what to do

3. Learn to evaluate and make decisions

Proverbs 31:16 – to think, consider

Deuteronomy 30:11, 14 – make personal application from scripture

Psalm 119:30 – *I have chosen the faithful way; I have placed Your ordinances before me.*

B. Become discerning about your own gifts, abilities, capacity

Romans 12:3 – think with sound judgment

I Corinthians 14:20 – do not be children in thinking but mature (consider pros and cons, consider consequences – not just live in the present)

Try new things, evaluate, then continue or not

C. Develop convictions from the Word of God

Ephesians 4:14 – *“...no longer be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming...”*

Colossians 2:6-8 – *“...firmly rooted...and established in your faith...no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception...”*

D. Establish priorities

Priorities enable us to stay focused on what's most important.

Priorities are fluid – some will stay the same, some will change

1. Plan – God guides, we plan.

Psalm 90:12 - *So teach us to number our days, that we may present to You a heart of wisdom.*

Psalm 16:11 – God makes known to us the path of life...

Proverbs 16:9 – *The mind of man plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.*

Proverbs 19:21 – *Many plans are in a man's heart, but the counsel of the Lord will stand.*

2. Scriptural guidelines for planning/objectives/goals

Luke 2:52 – Jesus grew in wisdom(intellectual), stature(physical), favor with God(spiritual), favor with man(social)

Understand how convictions and perspective determine our priorities.

When we learn to live by sound judgment – having dedicated ourselves to God and His service – and having become committed to the Word of God as our guide, we can live fruitful, fulfilled lives, focused on what's truly important.

Psalm 119:165 – *Those who love Your law have great peace, and nothing causes them to stumble.*

Philippians 4:6,7 – *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*