I. Instructions to older men. (Titus 2:2)

   A. This is not necessarily chronological age.

   B. Time is always essential to maturity.

   C. The best way to mature is by responding obediently to the Word of God.

   D. Six characteristics of a spiritually mature man.

   1. They are temperate.
      
      a. This is balance.

      b. Whenever you react to anything, there is a danger of moving to another extreme.

   2. They are worthy of respect.
      
      a. Are you making it easier or harder for your children to honor you?

      b. The greatest component of leadership is respect.

   3. They are self-controlled.
      
      a. This is being willing to forfeit immediate gratification for ultimate results.

      b. One only wins a race at the end. (1 Corinthians 9:24)

      c. When you lose sight of the goals, you concentrate on the motions.

   4. They are sound in faith.
      
      a. This is being a man of conviction.

      b. He knows what to love and what to hate.

   5. They are sound in love.
      
      a. This is being a man of compassion.

      b. It is a good idea to pray that God will keep you from becoming cynical in one’s old age.

   6. They are sound in endurance.
a. This is being a man of commitment.
b. It is a military term meaning to hold up courageously under fire.

II. Instructions to older women. (Titus 2:3-5)

A. Four characteristics an older woman should have. (Titus 2:3)

1. They should be reverent.
   a. This is not pious mush.
   b. This means consistency.
   c. Contrast this with Titus 1:16 and false teachers who are inconsistent between what they teach and practice.

2. They are not slanderers.
   a. They are not gossipers.
   b. The highest mark of spiritual ability is to control tongue. (James 3:2)
   c. The ability to control the tongue is proof positive that the spiritual is working in your life.

3. They are not addicted to much wine.
   a. This relates to what goes into your mouth.
   b. The number one drug problem is alcohol.

4. They must teach what is good.
   a. Even if you didn’t raise your own children well, hopefully you have gained wisdom to pass on.
   b. Younger mothers need mentors.

B. The one responsibility an older woman has is to train the younger women. (Titus 2:4-5)

1. Paul never tells Titus to train the younger women.

2. This is exclusively the job of older women.
   a. They are to train the young women to love their husbands. (Titus 2:4)
   b. They are to train the young women to love their children. (Titus 2:4)
   c. They are to train the young women to be self-controlled. (Titus 2:5)
d. They are to train the young women to be pure. (Titus 2:5)
   1) This is marital and moral fidelity.
   2) This is crucial in a pagan culture.

e. They are to train the young women to be busy at home. (Titus 2:5)
   1) The issue is priorities.
   2) This does not mean a woman cannot work outside the home. (Proverbs 31)

f. They are to train the young women to be kind. (Titus 2:5)
   1) This is the same word from which we get excellence.
   2) This is a quality of life.

g. They are to train the young women to be submissive. (Titus 2:5)
   1) This is not the exclusive responsibility of the wife.
   2) This is to be the lifestyle of every believer.

III. Instructions to young men: self-control. (Titus 2:6-8)

   A. This is discipline in the Christian life.

   B. You exemplify your Christianity by the quality of your life.


      2. By your seriousness: are you a person of purpose who earns the right to be heard? (Titus 2:7)

      3. By your soundness of speech: are you not be condemned by what you say? (Titus 2:8)