

# Grace Group Discussion Guide

## The Trustworthy Word

Scott Ardavanis

Titus 1:9

### Synopsis:

Titus provides a Blueprint for a Healthy Church

### Ch.1 Blueprint for the Conduct of Leaders

The quality of being above reproach is demonstrated in 3 areas of a man's life:

1. Home and Family life
2. His Personal Character
  - a. 5 Deadly Characteristics
  - b. 6 Virtues
3. His Skill with the Word of God
  - a. His Personal Devotion
  - b. His Pastoral Duty.

### Questions:

Warm Up:

1. What is one way that the sermon encouraged, exhorted, challenged, or corrected you?

Discussion:

1. Titus 1 shares that the Elder is to hold fast to the trustworthy word, what was the illustration pastor Scott used to describe this action and how does it help us understand how the elder is to interact with the Bible?
2. Read 2 Timothy 3:15-17. With God's Word being authoritative, how does this affect the way in which it directs our lives?
3. Why is the authority of Scripture a hard doctrine for people to swallow?
4. Read Ezra 7:10. How is he an example of how we should handle the word of God in our own lives?
5. Read Titus 2:1-6. What role does the Word play in discipleship in the body of Christ?
6. Read Romans 16:17-18, 2 Timothy 1:13-14, Acts 2:42. How is it that we can trust the Word is authoritative? Why is holding fast to the apostles teaching important?
7. Read Titus 1:9. What is the offensive strategy in the pastor's duty with the word? How does this offensive strategy grow and build the church?
8. Read 2 Timothy 4:2-3. How can losing sight of teaching sound doctrine hurt a church?
9. What are some reasons that pastors veer away from preaching sound doctrine?
10. How is the health of a church dependent upon the way in which an elder instructs in sound doctrine?

## Prayer Suggestion:

### Message from John Paul and Sarah Stepanian

*Dear Church Family,*

*Exactly six years ago you were rallying around our family and preparing to launch us out from GCV onto the mission field. Since July of 2019 we have loved the privilege and joy of serving Jesus in Kubamitwe, Uganda! Thank you for sending us! GCV is our home sending church and we love you so much. We only have thee supporting churches and GCV is the main one. We praise the Lord for His faithfulness, love, and care through you for all these years. Currently, JP is teaching 3 classes in Term 1 at the Shepherds Training College, while also taking his own PhD class and loving it. He leads a men's discipleship group every week, and serves as an elder in our local church. We recently just finished teaching a class on biblical parenting together with 4 young families in our church. We praise the Lord for so many opportunities to teach and teach and teach the Bible! Sarah is absolutely loving the expanding Shepherds Wives program and all the opportunities she gets to open the Word with women in and out of our home. Our family is doing very well! All 12 kids are busy studying, serving, singing, gardening, and growing! Our table is always full and you are always welcome! Come and visit! Love, JP & Sarah*

### Prayer Request

- That God would send laborers because the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few.
- That God would save our children from eternal destruction.
- For Sarah Stepanian to have strength, grace, and endurance in opening up her home for various ministry events, for bible studies and for discipleship.
- For GCV to see prayer as a priority of importance in supporting them as missionaries in Uganda
- Pray for Team Uganda as they prepare to be in the country in May for a youth Bible Conference!