

A Study of Titus 2:11-15

What is R.E.A.P.?

R.E.A.P. is a method of studying the Bible together to prepare for a group discussion. We highly encourage everyone to keep an ongoing journal and bring it to Monday nights, Wednesday nights, Sunday mornings, and any Bible study to engage well in our discussions together.

R.E.A.P.

1. Through **Reading**, people can circle and journal what they found noteworthy in each day's reading.
2. Through **Examining**, people can answer three major questions to prepare for discussion (What does this text teach us about God? What does this text teach us about humanity? What does this text teach us about Jesus?).
3. Through **Asking**, people can journal one or more significant questions they have about the text (Questions about events, people, places, situations, etc.) The goal is not to find answers to these questions themselves. Rather, the goal of asking significant questions is to think critically about the text and to bring thoughtful questions to pastors and teachers.
4. Through **Prayer**, people can take a moment to pray to God concerning things they read, examined, and asked.

Why do we REAP?

We believe that this method is helpful in reading God's Word at every level. From beginners to advanced readers, we know that the Bible is infallible (error-free) and God's revelation of Himself. We REAP to learn more about God, who He is and what He's done; and to know Him personally as Savior.

How do I use REAP?

1. Goal: Our purpose is not to collect information, trivia, or self-help tips, but to know and love God.
2. REAP the passage before Sunday's worship service, before the Wednesday night Bible Study, or before your Sunday School class. Don't allow the sermon or the Bible study to be the first time you face the text. Marinate in the text before we gather.
3. What do I do with my questions in the Ask section?
 - a. The big/main questions of interpretation should be answered by the sermon and preceding Bible study. If there are significant questions about how to understand the text after the sermon, we would encourage you to email me or Pastor Matt.
 - b. Join a growth group so that you can discuss the questions and how we should live out the applications of the text.

Titus 2:1-15

But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine.² Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness.³ Older women likewise

are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴ and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵ to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. ⁶ Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. ⁷ Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. ⁹ Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

¹⁵ Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.¹

REAP the text:

1. Read aloud together
2. Explain by answering the three questions: What does this passage teach us about _____?
 - a. **God:**

 - b. **Man:**

 - c. **Christ:**

3. Ask- What question/s would help you understand the text more fully?

¹ The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Titus 2:1-15. All passages of Scripture will come from this translation unless otherwise referenced.

4. Pray- Using some of your observations and questions, write out a prayer to God.

Background of the text:

1. Who wrote this book (author), who was its first recipient (audience), and why was it written (purpose/occasion)? Why are these elements an essential starting point in how we read and understand the Bible?
 - a. Author:
 - b. Audience:
 - c. Purpose/occasion:
 - d. Why?

2. In order to understand the ending section of chapter 2, it would be important to review the preceding verses. Below is a grid of Paul's instructions and to whom they are specified (2:1-10):

Recipient	Instruction	Purpose
Titus	“teach what accords with sound doctrine” (1); “urge the younger men to be self-controlled” (6); “Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us” (7-8)	“so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior” (10)
Older men	“be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness” (2);	“so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior” (10)

Older women	“be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴ and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵ to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled” (3-5)	“so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior” (10)
Bond-servants	“be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good faith” (9-10)	“so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior” (10)

3. What connects all of these instructions? How does this help us understand verses 11-15?

4. How can verse 11 become misunderstood? How should Christians respond to these challenges? Explain.

5. How is verse 12 essential to understanding verses 1-10? How should this affect our view of the gospel? Explain.

6. Paul explains how Christians are to wait in verses 13-14. What are Christians waiting for? What are some incorrect/correct ways to wait? Explain.

7. Paul gives Titus an important reminder in verse 15. What is this reminder?