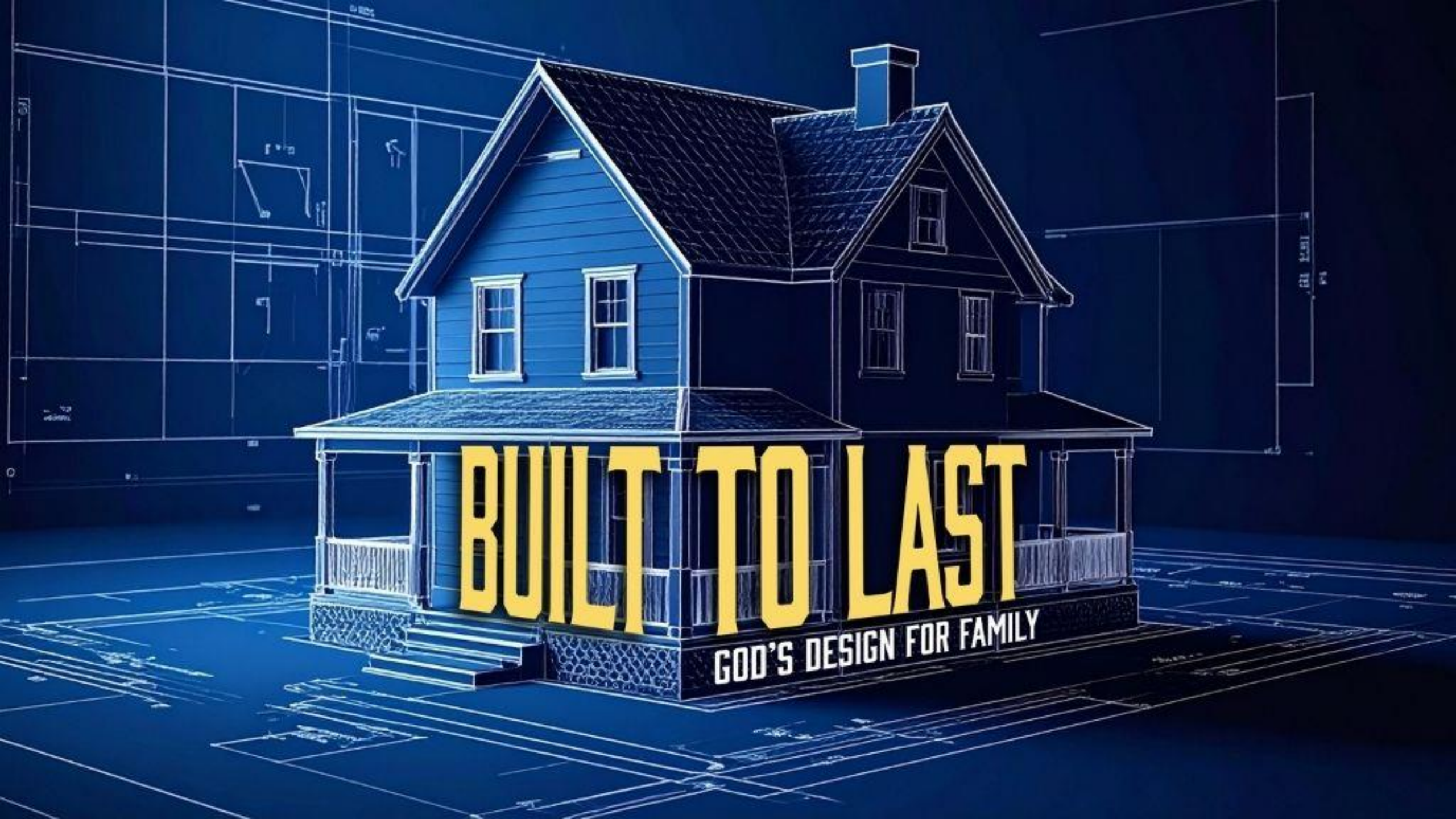




BUILT TO LAST

GOD'S DESIGN FOR FAMILY

Last week...

**What does the Bible say
about raising a family that is
bless-able?**

BUILT TO LAST



Deuteronomy 6

BUILT TO LAST

“Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the judgments which the Lord your God has commanded me to teach you, that you might do them in the land where you are going over to possess it, so that you and your son and your grandson might fear the Lord your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.”

Deuteronomy 6:1-2

BUILT TO LAST

“O Israel, you should listen [שמע] and be careful to do it, that it may be well with you and that you may multiply greatly, just as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.” Deuteronomy 6:3

BUILT TO LAST

“Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your **heart** [לֵבָב *lebab*] and with all your **soul** [נֶפֶשׁ *nefesh*] and with all your **might** [מְאֹד *maod*]. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart.” Deuteronomy 6:4-6

BUILT TO LAST

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.

Sh'ma Yisra-eil, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad.

Hear, O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One!

בָּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Baruch sheim k'vod malchuto l'olam va-ed.

Blessed is God's glorious majesty forever and ever.

The phrase above is part of the prayer but is not a quote from scripture

BUILT TO LAST

Last week, we asked...

Do you have a family legacy of faithfulness?

Are you building a legacy of faithfulness?

HOW are you building a legacy of faithfulness?

BUILT TO LAST

Action Verbs in Leading a Godly Family

- Fear the Lord your God
- Keep all His statutes
- Listen
- Be careful to do it
- Love the Lord your God
- Teach them diligently
- Do not forget the Lord
- Fear only the Lord your God
- Worship Him
- Swear by His name
- Do not follow other gods
- Do not put the Lord your God to the test
- Diligently keep the commandments of the Lord
- Do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord
- Observe all these statutes
- Fear the Lord our God
- Observe all this commandment

BUILT TO LAST

Godly Parenting Requires TIME

Tenderness

Initiative

Moral standards

Expectations

BUILT TO LAST

Today...

**In my family,
and in my church family,
what am I called to do?**

BUILT TO LAST



Titus 2

BUILT TO LAST

Introduction to the Book of Titus

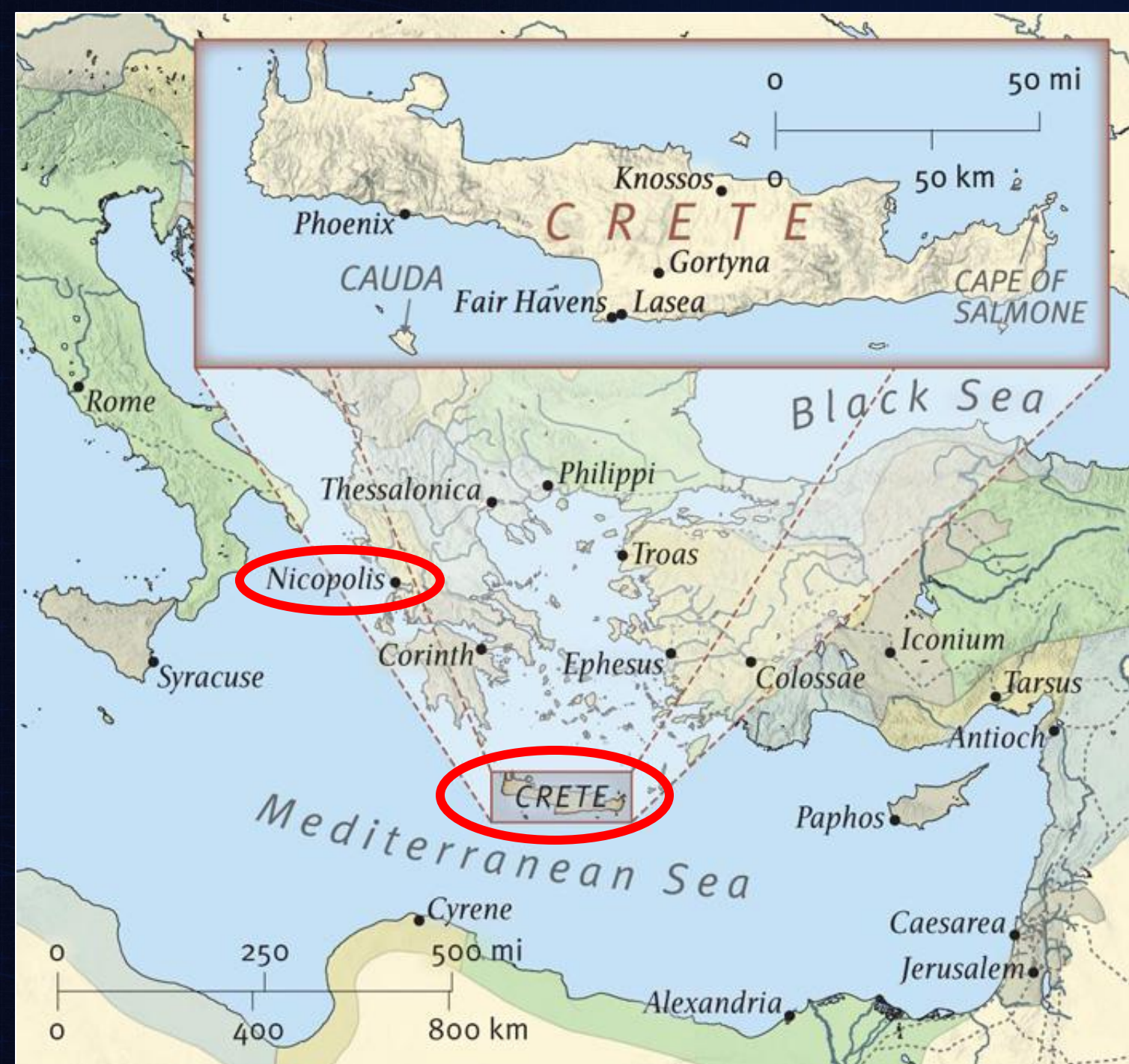
- **Author:** Apostle Paul
- **Recipient:** Titus was a Gentile convert (Galatians 2:3) who had served and traveled with the Apostle Paul (Galatians 2:1–3). Titus had also functioned as a faithful emissary to the troubled church in Corinth (2 Corinthians 7:6–7; 8:6, 16).
- **Date:** In approximately AD 63–66, sometime after they left Timothy behind in Ephesus, Paul and Titus traveled on to the island of Crete. After a brief visit Paul then left Titus behind to help provide leadership for the Cretan churches (Titus 1:5). Subsequently the apostle wrote this epistle and had it delivered to Titus.
- **Purpose:** The purpose of the epistle to Titus was to instruct him about what he should do and teach in the Cretan churches. A special theme of the letter is the role of grace in promoting good works among God's people (Titus 2:11–3:8).



The New Testament World

in the Time of the Roman Empire

LT TO LAST



Crete is the fifth-largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, about 160 miles long and 37 miles wide. It was at one time a very prosperous and populous island, having a “hundred cities.” The character of the people is described in Paul’s quotation from “one of their own poets” (Epimenides) in his epistle to Titus: “The Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies” (Titus 1:12). Jews from Crete were saved in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:11). The island was visited by Paul on his voyage to Rome (Acts 27). Here Paul subsequently left Titus (Titus 1:5) “to ordain elders.” Some have supposed that it was the original home of the Caphtorim or Philistines.

– Easton’s Bible Dictionary

BUILT TO LAST

But as for you [Titus], speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine [healthy teaching]. Titus 2:1

- “But as for you...” sets Titus apart from the false teachers described at the end of Titus 1. They may teach legalism and fables, but Titus was to teach the things which are proper for sound doctrine. - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>
- **They** profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed. Titus 1:16
- “Speak” is the Greek verb λαλέω *laleo*... to talk, to tell, to preach
- Followers of Jesus must be able to speak about their faith

BUILT TO LAST

“Things which are proper for sound doctrine”

- The idea behind this phrase has to do with **right living**, not just **right thinking**.
- The Living Bible translates this “Speak up for the right living that goes along with true Christianity.”
- The New Living Translation has “Promote the kind of living that reflects right teaching.”
- The Bible is a book that tells us how to *live*. It is the height of hypocrisy to say that we believe its truth if we ignore how it tells us to live our lives. We don’t always like it, but we always need to hear how God expects us to *live*.

Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance. Titus 2:2

- Titus, likely in his 30s or 40s, was called to pastor men who were older than he was

Older men, as followers of Jesus, were called to be:

- Temperate / sober-minded
- Dignified / worthy of respect / serious minded
- Sensible / self-controlled
- Sound [whole, unmixed] in faith
- Sound in love
- Sound in perseverance / steadfastness... the Greek noun *hupomone* ὑπομονή means “active endurance” not “passive waiting”

BUILT TO LAST

Older women likewise are to be reverent [sacred] in their behavior, not malicious gossips [slanderers, false accusers] nor enslaved [addicted] to much wine,
Titus 2:3a

- Titus was called to pastor women who were older than he was
- “Malicious gossips” or “slanderers” in English are translated from διάβολος *diabolos* in Greek, the same root word as “devil”
- There seems to have been a cultural norm in Crete to consume wine at such a level as to be “enslaved” or “addicted” to it

BUILT TO LAST

teaching what is good, so that they [older women] may encourage [admonish] the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, Titus 2:3b-4

- According to Paul's instruction, Titus was not to make it his ministry focus to teach the young women directly. Instead, he was to equip and encourage the older women to teach the younger women.
- Paul says that love for husbands and children must be *taught*. Certainly, aspects of this love are inborn. But other aspects – especially aspects that reflect the self-giving sacrifice of Jesus – must be *taught*. - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>
- Younger women with children were able to keep their focus at home, but older women would do well to reach outside their homes and share what they had learned with those who would profit from it most.

to be sensible [discreet, self-controlled], pure [chaste], workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored [reviled]. Titus 2:5

- Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. Ephesians 5:22
- Paul sets the wife's submission in the context of the husband's sacrificial love. Then, and now, the ideal relationship involves self-giving of each to the other. Where submission or sacrificial love are abandoned or compromised marriages suffer or collapse completely. – New Bible Commentary
- When Christians don't live in a Biblical, godly manner it means that the word of God may be blasphemed among the ungodly.

- <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>

BUILT TO LAST

Older women could help the younger women in many ways, a list that represents the apostle's understanding of a young wife and mother's proper priorities. This list emphasizes first what young wives and mothers are to be, and then only secondarily what they are to do. They are to be:

1. lovers of their husbands
2. lovers of their children
3. self-controlled (Titus 1:8; 2:2)
4. pure
5. busy at home (*oikourgous*, literally “working at home”)
6. kind (*agathas*, “good”)
7. subject to the godly leadership of their husbands

Christian wives and mothers can still be sure that the Lord will honor those who value what He values, and that He will ultimately vindicate both His Word and those who are faithful to it.

Likewise urge the young men to be sensible [sober-minded, self-controlled]; Titus 2:6

- “Sensible” is the Greek verb σωφρονέω *sophroneo*... to be of sound mind, to be in one’s right mind, to exercise self control, to put a moderate estimate upon one’s self, think of one’s self soberly, to curb one’s passions.
- The Living Bible translates this... *Urge the young men to behave carefully, taking life seriously.*
- This is the only command Titus is told to emphasize to young men, but sometimes it is a difficult one for younger men. - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>
- Paul used some form of the word here translated “self-control” with each of the four groups of people (v. 2, 4, 5, 6). Various forms of the word are prominent in the Pastoral letters, indicating for all Christians the importance of moderation, sensibleness, and self-restraint. - Bible Knowledge Commentary

BUILT TO LAST

in all things show yourself to be an example [pattern] of good deeds, with purity [integrity] in doctrine, dignified [serious], sound in speech which is beyond reproach [condemnation], so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad [evil] to say about us.

Titus 2:7-8

- Titus, who was also a young man, had to be more than a teacher, he also had to be an example. His guidance to others could not be taken seriously if he himself was not walking after the Lord. - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>

BUILT TO LAST

Urge bondslaves [servants] to be subject to their own masters [rulers] in everything, to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, Titus 2:9

- “Bondslaves” or “servants” (Greek noun δοῦλος *doulos*) made up a significant portion of first-century congregations.
- Titus was to teach bondservants about their specific duties as Christians. In the ancient world, Christians shocked the larger culture by mixing slaves and masters in the social setting of the church service. This meant that a slave might go to church and be an elder over his own master.
- Paul doesn’t say that bondservants should be obedient to every free man, only to their own masters. This means that Paul recognized that bondservants had obligations, but only to their own masters.
- Titus must direct servants to be good workers in all ways. By their hard work and humble submission, they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.

not pilfering [stealing], but showing all good faith so that they will adorn [make attractive] the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect. Titus 2:10

- Pilfering was so common in the ancient world that sometimes the words “servant” and “thief” were used interchangeably. It was assumed that servants would steal from their masters in these small ways.
- Pilfering “signifies not only stealing but embezzling another’s property; keeping back a part of the price of any commodity sold on the master’s account. In Acts 5:2, we translate it, to keep back part of the price; the crime of which Ananias and Saphira were guilty.” (Adam Clarke)
- Even one in a low or disadvantaged station in life has the potential to beautify God’s truth by the way they live.
- “The doctrine of God our Savior is adorned when its effects on life and character are expressed in conduct.... While it is still only a theory doctrine lacks the manifestation of beauty. When, however, it is realized and manifested in human life its beauty at once appears. The value of a theory is always supremely apparent in the results it produces.”

(G. Campbell Morgan)

- <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>

BUILT TO LAST

A Lesson for Believers of All Ages

Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve. For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality. Colossians 3:23-25

BUILT TO LAST

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation [σωτηρία *soteria*] to all men, Titus 2:11

- Grace *brings salvation*. You don't go out and "get" salvation; it comes to you and you have the opportunity to receive it.
- "Has appeared to all men"... There is one gospel of grace for all men. God doesn't have a gospel of grace for some and a gospel of law or self-justification for others. All people find salvation by the grace of God.

- <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>

- Not everyone is saved because not everyone has committed himself to this grace. However, because it has appeared to everyone, everyone has the opportunity to commit himself. – Jewish New Testament Commentary

BUILT TO LAST

instructing [teaching] us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly [soberly, self-controlled], righteously and godly in the present age, Titus 2:12

- The ancient Greek word for teaching [παιδεύω *paideuo*] has in mind what a parent does for a child. It speaks of the entire training process: teaching, encouragement, correction, and discipline. Grace is a teacher in this sense.
- Grace puts ungodliness and worldly lusts in our past. Now grace teaches us to renounce those things, not only to avoid them.
- “The most difficult part of the training of young men is not to put the right thing into them, but to get the wrong thing out of them.” (Charles Spurgeon)

looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory [δόξα *doxa*] of our great God and Savior, **Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us** from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds. Titus 2:13-14

- Paul, the author, has moved from a focus on the present to a focus on the future
- We are redeemed and purchased to live with zeal. This is zeal with knowledge, and zeal for righteousness in our own life before zeal for righteousness in the lives of others. - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>

BUILT TO LAST

Yeshua gave Himself up on our behalf in order to free (“ransom”) us

- Jesus said, “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45
- For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. 2 Corinthians 5:14–15
- nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified. Galatians 2:16
- In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace Ephesians 1:7

BUILT TO LAST

The First Coming and the Second Coming of Jesus

- He came the first time to save the soul of man; He will come a second time to resurrect the body.
- He came the first time to save the individual; He will come a second time to save society.
- He came the first time to a crucifixion; He will come a second time to a coronation.
- He came the first time to a tree; He will come a second time to a throne.
- He came the first time in humility; He will come a second time in glory.
- He came the first time and was judged by men; He will come a second time to judge all men.
- He came the first time and stood before Pilate; He will come a second time and Pilate will stand before Him.

It is crucial to see that this One whom Christians look forward to meeting is the same One who gave Himself for us to redeem us (*lytrōsētai*, “set free by payment of a price”; see Luke 24:21; 1 Peter 1:18) from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good. A holy people was His purpose in paying such a fearful price. Therefore, knowing what all He has done and why He has done it, a Christian who truly loves Jesus and looks forward to His return will pay any price to bring his life into conformity with his beloved Lord’s will, lest he disappoint Him at His return.

This was the Apostle John’s thought when he wrote about the hope of Christ’s appearing: “Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as He is pure” (1 John 3:3). A full understanding of these things leads inexorably to godly living. Conversely, ungodly living in a Christian is a clear sign that either he does not fully understand these things or he does not actually believe them.

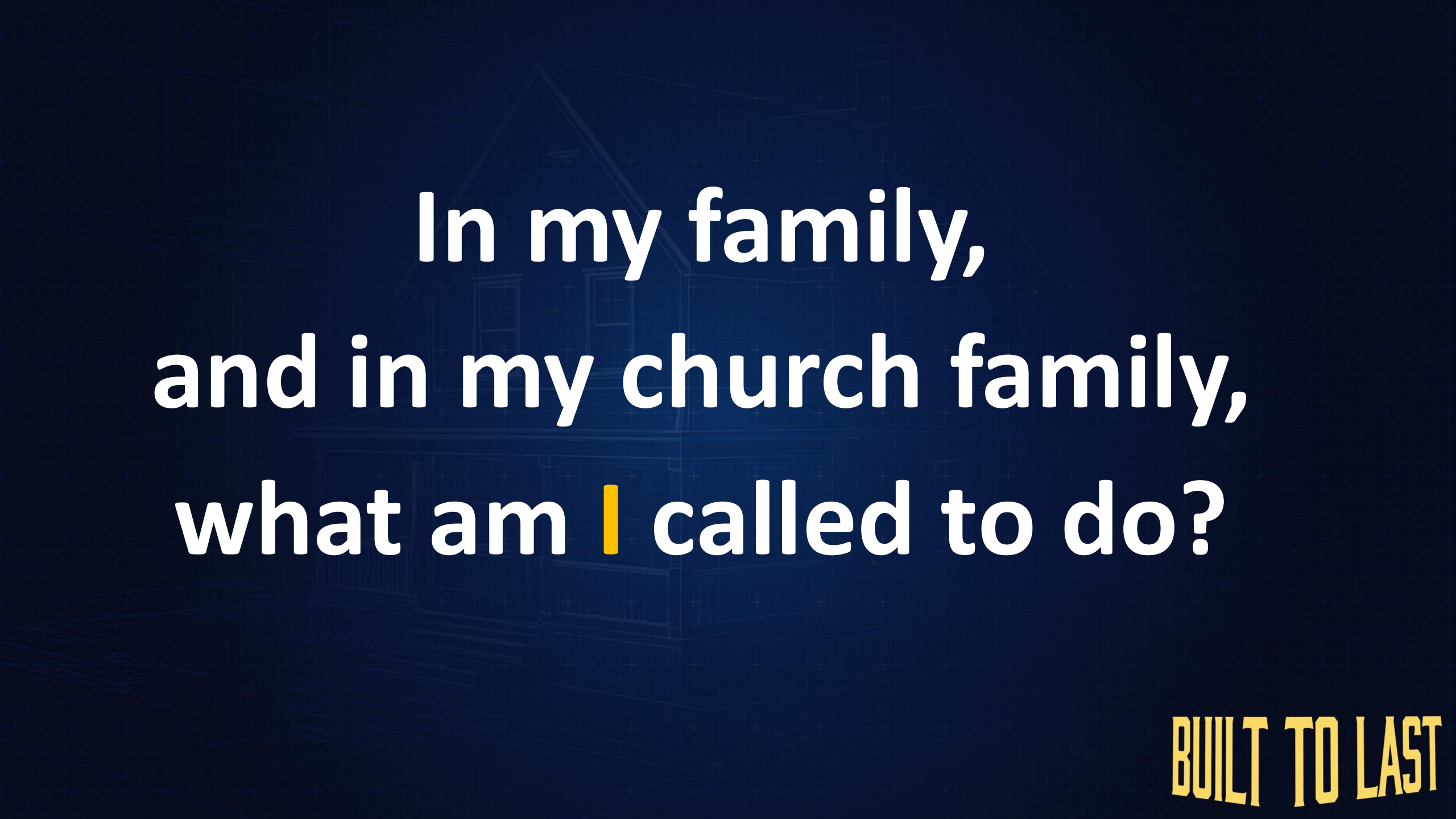
These things speak and exhort and reprove with all [spiritual or apostolic] authority. Let no one disregard [despise] you. Titus 2:15

- Titus, and every one of God's messengers of grace are directed to speak, exhort, and rebuke – and to do it with all authority. God's messengers are to remember that they are messengers from a King, holding the word that brings life and turns back hell.
- “Let no one despise you” ... If Titus spoke with all authority, he had to back it up with his life. Titus had to live so that no one would despise him or his message.

- <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/titus-2/>

- Titus, like Timothy (1 Timothy 4:12), needed reassurance of his ability and authority, so that he would not be overcome by inferiority feelings that would keep him from doing the Lord's work properly. - Jewish New Testament Commentary

BUILT TO LAST



In my family,
and in my church family,
what am I called to do?

BUILT TO LAST

No matter your age or station in life, God is calling **you**

- To know Jesus as Savior
- To live a life that honors Jesus as Savior
- To live in families that honor Jesus
- To live in church families that honor Jesus
- To help others meet Jesus as Savior
- To wait expectantly for the return of the Savior

BUILT TO LAST

What am I called to do?

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.” Galatians 2:20

BUILT TO LAST