



Sermon Notes: "Trained by Grace"

Titus 2, Ephesians 5:25 and 6:4

6.21.26

IN GOD'S HANDS:

- Self-control isn't one item on the list; it's the door every other virtue walks through.
- You will lead your home like you lead yourself.

THE COURAGE TO BLESS:

- Be courageous enough to encourage your kids out loud.

So What?

Grace, not Grit: You don't try your way into godly manhood. We must let God's Grace Train us.

- God secures our relationship through grace before he corrects the behavior.

For Study, Reflection, Discussion During the Week:

Life Group ICEBREAKER: The message this week opened with the image of a tool you had no business touching — the "how hard can it be?" moment that turned into a disaster. What's yours? And who eventually showed you the right way to do it?

REVIEW: Review the sermon notes from Sunday. Was there a particular point that stuck with you? What was it and why did it resonate with you?

READ: Titus 2:2-6

- The sermon said we love to skip to the leadership part — we want the corner office of the household before we've learned to run the one-man operation of our own heart. Internal government comes before external leadership, every time, no exceptions. Honestly, where are you trying to lead others in an area where you haven't yet learned to lead yourself? What would it take to address the inside before trying to fix the outside?

READ: Titus 2:6 | Proverbs 16:24 | Ephesians 5:25; 6:4

- Paul's word for how young men get to self-control is *parakaleō* — to come alongside and speak up. It's the same word Jesus uses for the Holy Spirit. The sermon said the very thing that forms a man is a voice speaking into him. Think about the voices that have spoken into you as a man — for good or for harm. Who has been a *parakaleō* presence in your life? And who are you currently being that for?

- Darin shared a story about baseball — when the instinct was to go quiet or go critical when a kid outdid you, but the right move was to meet him at home plate and celebrate it out loud. The teaching point was: be courageous enough to bless your kids out loud, in public. Affirmation withheld is not humility — it's a gift your family never receives. Where is insecurity causing you to go quiet or go critical with the people in your home right now? What would it look like to lay that down and bless them instead?

READ: Titus 2:11-14

- The sermon said the engine behind Titus 2 is this: it is grace that trains us. Grace isn't the thing that lets you off the hook from self-control — grace is the teacher that produces it. Dallas Willard put it this way: grace is not opposed to effort; it is opposed to earning. Earning is an attitude. Effort is an action. How does that distinction change the way you approach becoming the man God designed you to be? Where have you been trying to earn it instead of training under grace?

DEPLOY:

- *Identify the Broken Wall* -- Name honestly — to yourself, to God, and to one person in this group — the one area where your walls are down right now. The thing that keeps getting in that you can't seem to keep out. Not to be shamed, but because a man who can't name what's broken can't ask for help fixing it. Then ask your group to pray specifically over that wall this week.

Don't Forget:

- Happy Father's day to all the dads!
 - 4th of July FUN (Families United) 12-4 at Enterprise Christian Church. Use the sign-up sheet on the welcome desk to let us know what you'll be bringing
 - Dorothy Pratt memorial service will be on July 3rd at 2pm at ECC
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Prayer:

Father, we've tried to manufacture what only You can build — we've white-knuckled our way to self-control and run out of grip every time. Thank You that the answer isn't a better to-do list; it's Your grace. So train us — teach us, the way Titus 2 says, to turn toward the life You made us for, not by trying harder but by training under You. And send every man here home with one true word on his lips, words like honey for the people under his roof. In the name of the Man who laid it all down so broken men could be made new, amen.