

# TITUS 1:5-16

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

Here are some questions and thoughts to help guide discussion:

1. What stood out to you from this Sunday's sermon? Was there anything that was new to you, or anything that surprised you?
2. On Sunday we drew two implications out of verse 5. The first one was that, even though appointing elders was a priority for Titus, the churches existed before they had elders (Acts 14:21-23). This means that a church is not defined by its leaders, but by its people. One application of this is the importance of church membership. Can you think of others? How does this truth help you understand your place in the church?
3. The second implication from verse 5 had to do with the New Testament pattern of one single church in each town. In contrast, we have many churches in our town. What are some negatives to this? Are there any positives? Does any of this affect the way you look at your involvement with or commitment to EBC?
4. Compare the list of requirements for elders in vv. 6-9 with the list in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. What are the differences? What is the same? What is the significance of these differences and similarities?
5. These requirements for elders are not exclusive to elders. Rather, these things should characterize each of us who believe in and follow Christ. Are there any items in this list that the Lord has been helping you with? Are there any that you want to focus on growing in? How will you do this?
6. What approach were Titus and the elders supposed to use with the false teachers and those under their sway? (See verses 9, 11, and 13.) Is this an approach you'd tend to avoid, or maybe, on the other hand, over-use? How does this passage correct both extremes?
7. Can you think of a group of people that you have felt discouraged about, given their lack of faith or godliness? How should this whole passage encourage you towards them? If the gospel really changes everything, what does this mean for your approach towards these people, including your words and actions?