

Sermon Discussion Questions, October 9, 2011

The Book of Titus: How the Church Lives Out its Mission in Challenging Cultures – Week Two

Leadership that Influences a Culture, Dr. Rod MacIlvaine

How Local Churches Should Be Governed, Titus 1:5b-9

Local church leadership that influences culture consists of elders who are able to defend sound doctrine and create a healing environment where godliness can flourish.

HISTORY – Local church government has always been somewhat controversial.

Titus 1:5b

1. Based on the churches you have attended in the past, what forms of church government was involved? What were the strengths and weaknesses?
2. Based on Paul's words in Titus 1:5-9, what do you learn about elders? Their purpose? Their role? How do you think GCC is doing with our pattern for church leadership?
3. What is your overall perception of the way churches are run? Based on your own personal experience, why is it important for a church to operate with a biblical pattern?

CULTURE – Local church government should create a culture inside that offers healing to people outside. Titus 1:5c, Ephesians 4:11

4. Based on Titus 1:5c, why do you think there are multiple elders? Why do you think there are elders over every city? Why is this practice in the church a matter of obedience and urgency?

CHARACTER – Local church government is founded on personal character and integrity. Titus 1:6-7

5. What are the qualities of an elder according to Titus 1? What does this list not include? What do you think might happen if the world's qualification for leadership was applied to church government?
6. How do you think godly leadership might influence a culture?