

TITUS: EVERYDAY THEOLOGY

Titus 2:11-14, 3:1-15

Week Three

This is the final week of the Summit series on Paul’s letter to Titus. In the first week of the series Pastor J.D. established that Paul’s main concern for Titus was “The Truth that leads to Godliness.” This theme is present throughout the book of Titus. Chapter three opens with a short series of exhortations that describe how Christians should interact with the world around them. While at first glance these actions (Such as being kind and showing gentleness) seem obvious as descriptions of Christian behavior, but with any examination of our lives we see that our human nature is constantly pushing us toward the opposite. It is because of this tension that Titus is told to continually remind the believers of these newly formed churches that if they are not devoted to the new life they will fall back into the patterns of the old life.

Paul not only tells Titus how the people should live, but also why this type of gentle forgiveness is necessary. It is often easy to see anyone who disagrees with us as an enemy. (Have you read the comments section recently on youtube?) Paul reminds us in this letter that no matter how much patience or grace we are forced to show to those who oppose us it is but a fraction of what God has shown us when we were incapable of honoring him first. With sound teaching and a process for continual devotion in place Paul is confident that Titus will be able to establish churches on the island of Crete. This formula is no different for us today. Gospel truth leads to Godliness

Work through these questions before you come to small group and be ready to interact with the Scriptures and questions below.

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. This week’s sermon dealt heavily with the sinfulness of human nature, and the newness of a heart changed by grace. Are either of these things hard for you to accept as a functional reality? Why or why not?

2. Were there any other parts of the sermon that stood out to you?

3. Read Titus 3:1-11. The chapter starts with a list of instructions from Paul. Which one of these instructions could you begin to practically implement in your everyday life?



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4. Have you ever shown anyone kindness that was not returned to you? How did that make you feel? How does God’s grace factor in to your feelings when you try to forgive others?

5. Open to Galatians 5:1 (keep a finger in Galatians for a minute). How does the notion of “freedom in Christ” compare with the call for Christians to be self-controlled and pure?

6. Read Matthew 18:21-35. How does this compare to Paul’s words in Titus 3:1-15?

7. How does the King’s generosity reflect how God has forgiven us?

8. What is the goal and end result in this type of radical forgiveness?

9. What has this study in Titus taught you about the local church as God’s chosen instrument to spread his kingdom?

