

8-SESSION BIBLE STUDY

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DISPLAYING THE
GOSPEL OF GRACE

TITUS

COURTNEY DOCTOR
& HUNTER BELESS

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GOSPEL OF GRACE

TITUS

COURTNEY DOCTOR
& HUNTER BELESS

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EDITORIAL TEAM, LIFEWAY WOMEN BIBLE STUDIES

Andrea Lennon
Director, Lifeway Women

Tina Boesch
Manager

Chelsea Waack
Production Leader

Mike Wakefield
Content Editor

Sarah Kilgore
Production Editor

Sarah Hobbs
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Lauren Ervin
Cover Design



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About the Authors



COURTNEY DOCTOR received an MDiv from Covenant Theological Seminary and currently serves as the Director of Women's Initiatives for The Gospel Coalition. She is a Bible teacher and author of *From Garden to Glory* as well as several Bible studies including *In View of God's Mercies*, *Behold and Believe*, and *Remember Your Joy*. Courtney and her husband Craig have four children and five beautiful grandchildren.

DEDICATION

To Celena,

One of the great joys in my life has been growing together as older (me) and younger (you) women, loving Jesus, and encouraging each other to pursue knowing Him more. The line between discipler and disciplee is very blurred and I'm so grateful for all the ways the Lord has blessed me through you!

Much love,

Courtney



HUNTER BELESS is passionate about helping women and children know and love God more, especially through His Word. She has authored several children's books, founded *Journeywomen*, and is actively involved in ministry at her local church. Hunter and her husband, Brooks, have four wonderful kiddos. When they're not snuggled up reading a good book, you can find the Beless family gardening, riding bikes, or exploring the Buffalo River. Learn more about Hunter at hunterbeless.com.

DEDICATION

To my Titus 2 mentors, Meredith, Joyce, Linda, Amy, Gwen, Susie, and Courtney,
So much of what I do is a result of what I've learned, received, heard, and seen
in you. I am forever grateful for your investment in me.

Much love,

Hunter

A Word from Courtney & Hunter

Envision the most famous piece of art you've ever seen. Where was it located? Did you have to wander to the back of the museum or open a storage closet to see it? Probably not. Most museums put their finest artwork on display in a prominent place for all to see.

For example, the Mona Lisa is housed in the Louvre's largest room, a space big enough to welcome her many visitors. Vincent van Gogh's painting of the rolling night sky hangs on its own wall at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. Michelangelo's famous statue of David is situated in the middle of the Galleria dell'Accademia in Florence, Italy. Why do museums display renowned artwork and sculptures this way? Because the most valuable, precious, and worthy works of art deserve to be clearly displayed.

Likewise, one of God's greatest works takes place when He creates a new heart within someone, frees them from the bonds of sin, and saves them for eternity. It's a wonder to behold. We are his new and glorious creation. In fact, Paul said in his letter to the Ephesians "we are his workmanship" (Eph. 2:10). But how do we humbly display this unmerited grace? How could we possibly showcase His mercy? The book of Titus will help us embrace the grace of the gospel, and understand how to display its work in our lives, homes, churches, and communities.



This short letter was written by Paul, a man transformed by Jesus who beautifully displayed God's life-changing grace. Paul wrote this letter to Titus, his "true son" in the faith (Titus 1:4) and trusted co-worker (2 Cor. 8:23; Gal. 2:3), charging him to insist on the gospel for the health of the church. Most likely, it was through joint missionary efforts in Crete that Paul and Titus worked together. While

at some point Paul left the island, Titus remained to make sure the Cretan church was built upon the gospel of Jesus Christ. This letter was likely written in the mid-60s, around the same time as 1 Timothy. Alongside Paul's two letters to Timothy, Titus is known as a pastoral epistle because the content deals with things like church leadership, sound doctrine, and discipline. The plural benediction "grace be with all of you" that's found in Titus 3:15 also indicates that the letter, though written primarily to Titus, would also be

read to the entire congregation. Furthermore, all Scripture is useful for correcting and training in the church (2 Tim. 3:16), so we will interchangeably refer to the recipients of Paul's letter as both "Titus" and "the church."

Today we still cling to the same good news Paul writes of as our only hope, both now and for all eternity. When we live according to the gospel we discover that it has the power not just to save us but also to enable us to live a godly life. Because of our salvation in Christ, we are equipped for good deeds that demonstrate His grace.

If we want to become the kind of women who know this truth, believe it, and live it out, then the message of Titus is for us. If we want to become the kind of women who love sound teaching and faithfully pass it down to others, the message of Titus is for us. If we want to become women who display the gospel through godly character and good works, the message of Titus is for us!

We hope you're convinced that the message of Titus was not just for the early church, but contains a relevant message for the church today. It is our prayer that together, we will grow in the knowledge and understanding of the truth that leads to godliness. May the Lord use our study of Titus to encourage us to know the gospel, believe the gospel, and to humbly display the gospel of God's grace.

We are truly looking forward to studying Titus together. May God powerfully meet you in the study of His Word. Our hope is that you will behold the grace of the gospel, be more transformed into the image of Jesus, and grow in grace-fueled godliness.

Much love,

Courtney & Hunter



How to Use This Study

We will be studying Titus using the inductive method—an approach that is helpful no matter what book of the Bible you study. We'll use the same series of questions each week of study to help us dig into the text. The first question will start with observation of the text by asking, *What does it say?* Then we will attempt to interpret the passage by asking, *What does it mean?* The next day we will ask, *What do other Scriptures say?* And on the last two days of our study, we will seek to apply the text by asking, *What am I to believe?* and, *Who am I to become?* We might deviate from this a bit now and then, but following this order will help us slow down and thoroughly examine the passage as we seek to properly apply its message.

What Does It Say/Observation:

When observing the passage, we want to notice things like repeated words, specific details, and any illustrations. We'll ask the basic who, what, when, where, and how questions. If you don't know the meaning of a word, look it up and write down what you learn. Also, record any questions you have as you read.

What Does It Mean/Interpretation:

With interpretation, we'll ask questions about meaning. We'll consider the intent of Paul, the author, and see the passage through the lens of the original audience—the believers in Crete who heard it first. At this point, we are not asking what this text means to *us*; we're asking what it would have meant to *them*.

What Do I Do/Application:

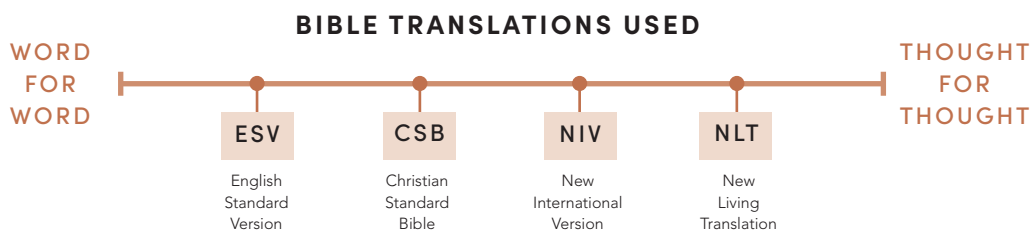
The last step is asking how this passage is meant to transform us. We want to consider what God has done and then ask how He wants us to respond in return. Your responses might include anything from repent, obey, believe, and pursue holiness, to wait, trust, be still, speak up, give, go, worship. We'll let the interpretation of the passage inform our application.

Every session is broken into five increments of daily study. The daily breakdown of the inductive study method is meant to serve as a guide, but there will be overlap, too. For instance, while observing the text, we might make an application in the moment. Or, while seeking to apply the text, we may need to provide interpretive context to clarify the point. Know that the categories are not hard and fast, but they will serve as general directions for our study of the book of Titus.

Plan on committing approximately twenty minutes for study each day (or an hour and half each week). Each week will start with prayer—a time for you to ask God to meet you as you study His living and active Word. We’ve included a prayer for each session, but we encourage you to use the space provided to journal your own prayers throughout the week. Share with God your gratitude, joy, repentance, sorrow, doubts, fears, questions, and commitments.

Though we’ve broken the text down into shorter passages to study each week, the letter was meant to be read in its entirety. Reading through the whole book of Titus only takes about seven minutes. We encourage you to read through the whole book at least once a week. We’ve included the text within your study book so you can mark it up and take notes.

Throughout this study we’ll refer to different translations of the Bible. We’ll use the following abbreviations to identify them.



Some Other Features of the Study

DEFINITIONS

To provide insight into words and phrases you might be unfamiliar with or want more clarity about, we've included definitions in the margins of each session and a glossary of terms as an addendum on page 167.

MEMORY WORK

Titus 3:3-7 is a key section in Titus. Every week, we'll work to memorize one verse from this passage. We encourage you to take a few minutes each day of study to review the memory verse for the week by using the memory verse help we've provided. We will suggest different learning tools to help you remember the verse and access it throughout the day, but feel free to do whatever works best for your personal learning style. The discipline of hiding God's Word in your heart will bear much fruit in your life and the lives of those around you. As a bonus, you can find a Memory Verse "quiz" at [lifeway.com/titus!](http://lifeway.com/titus)

³ For we too were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, enslaved by various passions and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, detesting one another. ⁴ But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love for mankind appeared, ⁵ he saved us—not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy—through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶ He poured out his Spirit on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we may become heirs with the hope of eternal life.

TITUS 3:3-7

SINGING THE GOSPEL

As we learn more about who God is through His Word (theology), we should be led to worship Him (doxology). So, at the end of every week we will list a song to help us move from our study of the Scriptures to praising God in response to the glorious truths we've learned. We encourage you to sing these songs out loud and praise God with your lips, as you do so with your whole life.

FOR FURTHER READING

Throughout the study, you'll find recommended resources to help further your understanding of specific topics we cover.

TEACHING VIDEOS

You have access to teaching videos that provide additional content to help you better understand and apply what you studied in the previous week. You'll find detailed information for how to access the teaching videos that accompany this study in the back of your Bible study book.

Feel free to take notes on these teaching sessions in the space provided on the Viewer Guide pages. If you're doing this study with a group, there are questions and prompts provided on the Viewer Guide pages to help you discuss the video teaching together.

We are truly looking forward to studying Titus with you. Our hope is that you will behold the grace of the gospel, be continually transformed into the image of Jesus, and grow in grace-fueled godliness. May God powerfully meet you in the study of His Word.



You'll find detailed information for how to access the video teaching sessions that accompany this study on the card inserted in the back of your Bible study book.

01

Session One

Introduction

WATCH the Session One video teaching and take notes in the space below.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What part of Courtney and Hunter’s conversation resonated with you the most? Why?
2. Why is it important to study the Bible in community? Why is it personally helpful to you?
3. How does Titus fit into the big story of the Bible and why should we study it?
4. Courtney talked about how the baton of faith has been passed down through the centuries. Who passed the baton of faith on to you and how did they do so? Who do you have the opportunity to pass it on to?
5. How would you summarize the message of the gospel?
6. What context(s) do you have for living out the gospel—family, workplace, church, community, and so on?
7. When you take a moment to consider that God has placed you in your context to display the gospel of grace, what are your thoughts and emotions?
8. After hearing this opening conversation, what do you hope to get out of this study?



To access the video teaching sessions, use the instructions in the back of your Bible study book.

02

Session Two

Entrusting the Gospel

Titus 1:1-4

¹ Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness, ² in the hope of eternal life that God, who cannot lie, promised before time began. ³ In his own time he has revealed his word in the preaching with which I was entrusted by the command of God our Savior:

⁴ To Titus, my true son in our common faith. Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Hello, and welcome to our first full week of studying Titus together! We are so excited to dive into this glorious letter with you.

As we begin, we will focus on the first four verses of this letter and consider the major themes that are introduced. But we will also peek ahead at a passage found toward the end—Titus 3:3-7. This is the passage we encourage you to memorize during the study. It is a beautiful summary of the gospel—setting it on glorious display! And it will ground us in the grace of God that leads to godliness and good works (which we will be talking about throughout this study).

MEMORY VERSE

For we too were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, enslaved by various passions and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, detesting one another.

TITUS 3:3

MEMORY VERSE HELP FOR THIS WEEK

Write Titus 3:3 on a few notecards or sticky notes and place them where you spend a lot of time—in your car, on the mirror in your bathroom, or next to the kitchen sink. You could also add Titus 3:3 to your phone wallpaper. Every time you see one of these, take a minute to recite Titus 3:3 aloud.

PRAYER

for the week

Father, You have said that Your Word is light (Ps. 119:105), power (1 Cor. 1:18), truth (2 Cor. 6:7), and life (Phil. 2:16). Help me to understand it, believe it, and align my life with it. I pray You will meet me through Your living Word and change me by its power. By Your grace, continue to conform me into the image of Your perfect Son, in whose name I pray. Amen.

DAY ONE

Observation *(What Does It Say?)*

READ TITUS 1:1-4.

We will begin every session by taking time to simply observe the passage. Good observation involves practices like reading the passage, marking repeated words, and noting verb tenses, specific information (like names and locations), the structure of the text, and contrasts or comparisons. We find it helpful to read the passage multiple times, including reading it aloud once or twice, if possible.

What were Paul's first words about . . .

- . . . God?
- . . . himself?
- . . . Titus?

What did Paul say leads to godliness?

In what do God's people hope?

With what was Paul entrusted?

How many times is the word (or concept of) *time* used? _____

- What did God promise before time began?
- When did God reveal His promise (His Word) and how does He reveal it?

Did you notice the element of time in this passage—past, present, and future? God's promise was made in the past. (In fact, it was made before time even began, but trying to comprehend that might send us on a mental spiral, so let's just stick with "in the past.") God's promise for

eternal life was made in the past but will be fulfilled for all God's people in the future, when Jesus comes again and we live with him in the new heavens and new earth (Rev. 21). But that same promise, the one made long ago which will be fulfilled in the future, was accomplished in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus at a specific time in history (~AD 33). And that promised eternal life is made available to people whenever the gospel is preached. Made before time began, fulfilled when eternal life begins, ever-present and ready to save. Who else but God can hold eternity past and eternity future together with such surety? As the psalmist said,

Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

PSALM 90:2 (NIV)

In these opening verses, Paul referred to the gospel without saying the word “gospel” outright. He mentioned “the truth that leads to godliness” and he talked about being entrusted with something that reveals God's promise of eternal life. What is the truth that leads to godliness? What was Paul entrusted with? What is the promise that gives the hope of eternal life? It is the gospel of Jesus Christ—the good news that Jesus saves sinners like us. This is why Paul was so adamant about preaching the true gospel.

Paul began his letter to Titus by talking about the *consequences* of the gospel, rather than the *contents* of the gospel. And we're going to see that godliness and good works—both consequences of the gospel—are major themes in this letter. That's because godliness and good works should be seen in increasing amounts in the lives of those who have been saved by the gospel of grace. But, it is vitally important to know the *contents* of the gospel because the beautiful fruit of godliness and good works must have the gospel of grace as its root. Otherwise, we are just striving in our own effort. So, let's peek ahead to the end of the letter to see how Paul sets the contents of the gospel on display. As we consider the glorious gospel of grace, we will see how it fuels us to bear good fruit.

³For we too were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, enslaved by various passions and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, detesting one another. ⁴But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love for mankind appeared, ⁵he saved us—not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy—through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶He poured out his Spirit on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we may become heirs with the hope of eternal life.

TITUS 3:3-7

According to these verses, what three reasons are given for why God saved us (vv. 4-5a)?

What did *not* contribute to our salvation (v. 5)? Give an example of what these might be.

If you follow Paul's long sentence carefully, what four phrases did Paul use to communicate the way Jesus saved us?

Verse 5

-
-
-

Verse 6

-

How is each member of the Trinity involved in salvation?

What is the result of this salvation (v. 7)? Where else have you seen that phrase?

Look ahead to verse 8. What evidence shows the gospel has taken root in the life of a believer?

Draw a picture of a tree. If the tree represents your life, indicate which part of the tree represents the gospel and which part of the tree represents godliness and good works (see John 15:5).

Oh, friend, what a beautiful way to begin our study together—reflecting on the love, kindness, and mercy of God who saves sinners like us. I encourage you to begin memorizing these verses, starting with verse 3. As we hide these eternal and powerful truths in our hearts, not only will we grow in our understanding of all God has done for us, but we will also love Him more for it and be better able to share it with others. For we, like Paul, been saved by and entrusted with the glorious gospel of grace.

DAY TWO

Interpretation *(What Does It Mean?)*

READ TITUS 1:1-4.

Now that we've spent time observing the text, we can begin to ask what it means. But remember, at this point we're not asking what it means to us, we're asking what it meant to them—the original audience at the time it was written.

Why do you think Paul begins his letter by describing himself as both a servant and an apostle, and why would this have been important to the people on Crete?

APOSTLE

The New Testament primarily uses the word *apostle* to refer to the twelve disciples and Paul—men who had seen the risen Christ and been commissioned by him to preach the gospel to the ends of the earth.

According to verse 1, what is the relationship between faith, knowledge, truth, and godliness?

Restate that relationship in your own words.

What difference does the word *the* make in the phrase “knowledge of the truth”?

To the original audience, what would have been significant about God promising to accomplish salvation/eternal life before time began? (Hint: It's probably not very different from its significance for you.)

How does this impact your understanding of His love for you and your security in Him?

What do you think the phrase “the faith of God’s elect” means?

How does the fact that God promised the hope of eternal life before time began inform your answer?

Paul knew he had been called to serve God by proclaiming the gospel so that people—all those whom God foreknew—would be saved. That is what he meant when he wrote, “for the sake of the faith of God’s elect” (ESV).

Paul ended his greeting in verse 4 by identifying Titus as his “true son in our common faith” and wishing him the same two things he wished the recipients of all his letters—grace and peace. I love the combination of the phrases “true son” and “common faith.” It seems Paul was establishing two things. First, his fatherly relationship to Titus. He was most likely older than Titus and had probably led Titus to the Lord, so Paul took his responsibility to disciple Titus seriously. This relationship would have naturally contained some authority on Paul’s part. But Paul’s inclusion of the phrase “in our common faith” leveled them. They were fellow sojourners, two men following Jesus. They needed equal grace, equal comfort, equal strength, and equal wisdom. They were both entrusted with the same gospel and were being called to join God on the same mission. And, as we’ll see on Days Four and Five, so are we.

As we wrap up our study today, I'd love for you to think about Paul's greeting in verse 4, "grace and peace."

Write a definition for *grace* that you think Paul would agree with. What difference does grace make in the life of a believer?

GRACE

God's unmerited favor

Grace. We will hear and use this beautiful word over and over again in this study. So, let's make sure we share a good definition of this crucial word. Grace means that God gives us, in Jesus, salvation and eternal life. The gift is unmerited and unearned. In fact, we've "earned" the opposite—God's wrath and condemnation. But, because God is full of grace, He gives us Jesus and everything we need is found in Him.

Write a definition of *peace* that you think Paul would agree with. What difference does peace make in the life of a believer?

PEACE

A complete sense of well-being in and through Christ

Biblical peace goes beyond a simple absence of conflict. Rather, it is a holistic sense of well-being that only comes through a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. It is the knowledge and assurance that because of who Jesus is, what I have in Him, and who I am in Him, all is well, even when my circumstances seem to say differently. As the Scripture says, Jesus not only gives us His peace (John 14:27), He is our peace (Eph. 2:14-17).

Work on your memory verse and, as you contemplate who we all are apart from Jesus, let the reality of God's grace and peace wash over you.

DAY THREE

Interpretation *(What Do Other Scriptures Say?)*

READ TITUS 1:1-4.

CROSS REFERENCE

Another verse in the Bible that shares a similar word, topic, or theme with the verse you are reading

In order to faithfully interpret Scripture, we need to remember that the Bible never contradicts itself. That means we need to search the whole counsel of God's Word to see how other passages shed light on the one we're studying. The best way to interpret Scripture is with other Scripture. Checking cross references helps prevent us from using a verse or verses out of context. It also helps us marvel at God, who, through forty human authors and over a two-thousand-year period, has given us one cohesive, magnificent story in Scripture that holds together from beginning to end!

Paul called himself a "servant of God." On one hand, some of us would probably prefer to be called "friend of God." But on the other hand, I can't imagine a higher privilege than serving God. Was that title unique to Paul or were others called servants of God? Let's take a look.

Read Psalm 105:26 and 2 Samuel 7:8.

He sent Moses his servant, and Aaron, whom he had chosen.

PSALM 105:26

So now this is what you are to say to my servant David: 'This is what the LORD of Armies says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, to be ruler over my people Israel.'

2 SAMUEL 7:8

Who else is called God's servant?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:19 and Revelation 5:9.

Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:19

And they sang a new song: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slaughtered, and you purchased people for God by your blood from every tribe and language and people and nation.

REVELATION 5:9

According to these passages, why should you consider yourself a servant, too?

Read John 3:36; 1 John 5:11, 13; and Colossians 3:4, and answer the following questions.

The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, but the one who rejects the Son will not see life; instead, the wrath of God remains on him.

JOHN 3:36

¹¹And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. . . . ¹³I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 JOHN 5:11,13

When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

COLOSSIANS 3:4

Who receives eternal life?	
Who gives eternal life?	
How do we receive it?	
When will we experience it?	

Read 1 Peter 1:18–20.

*He was foreknown before the foundation of the world
but was revealed in these last times for you.*

1 PETER 1:20

What do you learn about when salvation was planned and when it was accomplished? How is this similar to what we read in Titus 1:2–3?

God *planned* and *promised* salvation before He created a single atom. When the time came to accomplish that salvation, Jesus set aside His glory, took on flesh, and dwelt among us (John 1:1–14; Gal. 4:4–5; Phil. 2:5–8). At a specific time in history (~AD 33), Jesus, having lived a perfect life, died a sacrificial death and rose victorious from the grave. That was how salvation was accomplished. If you have believed in Jesus, you received this salvation at some point in your life. And for all of us who have received it, we look forward, with hope, for this salvation to be complete. That is the hope of glory. And every bit of it rests on the promises of God.

Read Numbers 23:19 and Hebrews 6:17–18.

*God is not a man, that he might lie,
or a son of man, that he might change his mind.
Does he speak and not act,
or promise and not fulfill?*

NUMBERS 23:19

¹⁷Because God wanted to show his unchangeable purpose even more clearly to the heirs of the promise, he guaranteed it with an oath, ¹⁸so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us.

HEBREWS 6:17–18

What do these passages testify about God's character?

What difference does this attribute make in how we understand
Titus 1:1–4?

The gospel is the message of salvation. Through the preaching and proclamation of it God saves people. And, just as Paul and Titus were entrusted with the gospel in the first century, you and I are entrusted with it today. But why? Why would God trust us to be the way He brings His salvation—the one He planned, promised, and accomplished—to bear in the lives of the people around us? I have no idea. But He does.

Read Romans 10:14.

How, then, can they call on him they have not believed in? And how can they believe without hearing about him? And how can they hear without a preacher?

ROMANS 10:14

How does this verse stress the importance of proclaiming the gospel to those around you? (Note: “Preacher” can also be translated “one who proclaims.” Paul is referring to anyone who shares the gospel.)

List two to three people you know who are unsaved. Prayerfully consider when and how you can proclaim the good news to them.

None of us feel adequate to the task of sharing the gospel. But if we are saved servants, we have been entrusted with the message that saved us. It’s good news we must pass on. As one theologian said, “Some may preach the gospel better, but no one will preach a better gospel.”¹

Take a moment and practice reciting this week’s memory verse.

DAY FOUR

Application *(What Am I to Believe?)*

READ TITUS 1:1-4.

As we've said, the Bible is meant to do more than merely *inform* us—it's meant to *transform* us. God uses His Word to conform His people more and more to the image of His Son by the power of His Spirit. This process is called sanctification, and even though it's a lifelong journey, it is a wonderful, beautiful blessing of belonging to God and growing in Him. It's what Paul was referring to when he said the knowledge of the truth leads to godliness.

Knowing the effectual work of God's Word, we should come expectantly anytime we read or study it. We should expect God to change, convict, instruct, reorient, comfort, encourage, strengthen, and transform us. We should expect Him to change not only what we do, but also what we love and how we think. Consequently, we are going to spend one day in each session thinking about what God is asking us to believe and another day asking who we, as a result, are to become.

Identify and describe two areas of your life—one negative and one positive—where what you believe dictates how you live.

In verse 1, how did Paul say knowledge impacts our living? What kind of knowledge did he say we need?

List what you might need to stop believing and what (according to our verses this week) you might need to start believing.

How would you define godliness? In what ways is your knowledge of the truth leading you into greater godliness?

If godliness involves looking more like Jesus and realizing more victory over sin, how do we increase in godliness? One of the main ways is by studying and believing God's Word, by God's grace, with the help of the Holy Spirit. That statement should be encouraging, because that's exactly what you're doing in this moment! The knowledge of the truth, as you believe it by faith, will lead to godliness and good works, and the Word of God will sanctify you through and through. This is good news!

What is your hope of eternal life? What knowledge fuels that hope?
How does that hope impact how you live?

From Titus 1:1-4, list what we need to know and believe. (We've provided a couple of items to get you started).

- Knowledge of the truth leads to godliness
- God cannot lie
-
-
-

Read Titus 3:3-7 again. List some of the truths we should know and believe from these verses.

Circle the truths you might be struggling to believe and ask God to strengthen your faith.

Work on your memory verse today. As you do, ask God to give you more and more insight into the truth of His Word. And ask Him to transform you more and more into the image of His beloved Son.

DAY FIVE

Application *(Who Am I to Become?)*

READ TITUS 1:1-4.

We are not saved by good works, nor are we saved because we have the appearance of godliness. We are saved by God, in His mercy, grace, kindness, and love, through faith in Jesus. Paul wrote in Ephesians:

⁸ For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift— ⁹ not from works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

EPHESIANS 2:8-10

While we are not saved *by* good works, we are saved *for* good works. And we are not saved *by* godliness, but we are saved *for* godliness. Those truths dictate who we are to become: godly women full of good works.

In these first four verses, Paul made it clear our salvation is not just for our benefit. It's not just something between "me and Jesus," and it's not something that only impacts our eternal future. Our salvation is meant to impact every moment of our lives. Paul knew his purpose in life. He was a servant and an apostle who had been entrusted with the gospel message and called to proclaim it. The same is true for us.

List words that describe a servant of God. (Hint: See 2 Tim. 2:24.)

Underline the qualities above that describe you. Circle the ones you would like God to make more true of you.

DISCIPLE (NOUN)

One who follows Jesus

DISCIPLE (VERB)

To teach and model how to follow Jesus

We've already seen that the word *apostle* is used in the New Testament primarily to refer to the men who had seen the risen Christ and been commissioned by Him to preach the gospel to the ends of the earth. But the word literally means "sent ones." In that sense, we are all apostles (just not *the* apostles), because we have all been sent by God with His message of salvation.

In what ways do you live as a "sent one"? List all the different spheres in your life (e.g. school, church, work, neighborhood, hobbies, family, etc.). Then, write specific ways you can live as a "sent one" in each of those areas.

How have you been entrusted with the gospel?
By whom? Why?

FOR FURTHER READING

Growing Together
by Melissa Kruger

Deep Discipleship
by J. T. English

Do you, like Paul, have a true child in common faith? Do you have a younger woman in the faith (regardless of age!) that you disciple? Explain.

Discipleship is part of the life of every believer. First, every believer is a disciple, or follower, of Jesus. But there's another aspect to discipleship. The last command Jesus gave before returning to heaven was,

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

MATTHEW 28:18-20

The command in this passage is to “make disciples.” *How?* As we are going (living life), we make disciples by sharing the gospel and inviting others to become followers of Jesus. We then encourage them to be baptized as a way to proclaim their transformation and identify with the community of faith. Then, the discipleship process continues by teaching them and modeling for them the Word of God so they will be able to follow Him with growing faith.

How are you being disciplined? How are you involved in making disciples?

Meditate on Titus 1:1-4. Summarize it in your own words and then write a prayer of response.

Finish memorizing Titus 3:3. Spend time reflecting on what you’ve learned this week and jot down some takeaways. And remember, God is at work in us, through us, and for us as we study His Word!

Singing the Gospel

"My Hope Is Built / The Solid Rock" by Norton Hall Band

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What part of Courtney and Hunter’s conversation resonated with you the most? Why?
2. How have you seen the gospel bring people together from different walks of life? How is the gospel able to do that?
3. The gospel radically changed the purpose and trajectory of Paul’s life. How has the gospel done the same in your life? In the lives of those around you?
4. Paul identified himself first as a “servant of God.” Is that how you would first identify yourself? Explain.
5. How would you summarize the memory verses—Titus 3:3-7?
6. How does the memory passage help you better understand the gospel?
7. Do you ever find yourself trying to produce good works in your own power? What are the consequences of that effort?
8. God, who cannot lie, has promised us the hope of eternal life. How does God’s character and His promise in this passage affect your walk with Him and witness for Him?
9. How does this passage call you to display the gospel of grace?



To access the video teaching sessions, use the instructions in the back of your Bible study book.