

THE BOOK OF  
**TITUS**

# Introduction

Welcome to our D-Group study on the book of Titus! Titus is a relatively short letter written by the Apostle Paul, and it reminds Christians of the fact that knowledge of gospel truth goes hand-and-hand with godly conduct. For the Apostle Paul...the saving work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in our lives should produce godly people who “devote themselves to good works.”

As we read through this pastoral letter, we see that Titus has been deployed to Crete, an island in Greece. In Titus Chapter 1, we learn that the residents of Crete had become quite infamous for their ungodly conduct. Consequently, Paul instructs Titus to choose godly leaders for the churches in Crete, and to remind the believers there about how they should conduct themselves in their society as those who have experienced God’s saving grace in their lives. Paul’s words to Titus, though written over 2000 years ago, still remain a valuable source of Biblical truth and instruction for all believers who desire to live godly despite living in an ungodly society.

As you navigate this three-week curriculum, our prayer is that this study would cultivate a greater appreciation of the Triune God’s saving work in your life, resulting in a church full of godly people who are devoted to good works for the glory of God and good of others.

# TITUS 1:1-16



## Greeting

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, **2** in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began **3** and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior; **4** To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

## Qualifications for Elders

**5** This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— **6** if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. **7** For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, **8** but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. **9** He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

**10** For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. **11** They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. **12** One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." **13** This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, **14** not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. **15** To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. **16** They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.



# TITUS 1:1-16

## **Read verses 1-4 and answer the following questions:**

1. Why is it important for Christians to recognize that there is a relationship between knowing the truth and living godly?
2. In what areas of your life do you struggle to live Godly despite knowing the truth?
3. What are some practical steps you could take to bridge the gap between your Bible knowledge and your conduct?

## **Read verses 5-9 and answer the following questions:**

1. Which of the leadership qualifications listed in verses 5-9 stand out to you the most? Why?
2. If these qualifications ultimately describe a life of integrity and Christ-likeness for all Christians, where do you see an opportunity to grow the most personally?

## **Read verses 10-16 and answer the following questions:**

1. In what ways does our society resemble Paul's description of the people living in Crete?
2. If Paul were writing a letter to our church, what would he identify as areas in need of correction?
3. What is one thing you could do to assist the leaders in addressing the primary problems and areas in need of correction in our church?

### **Before you go...**

Spend time in prayer as a D-Group. Pray for our church and specifically for the church leaders (Pastors, Deacons, and D-Group/Ministry leaders).

# TITUS 2:1-15



## Teach Sound Doctrine

**1** But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. **2** Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. **3** Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, **4** and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, **5** to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. **6** Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. **7** Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, **8** and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. **9** Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, **10** not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.

## Final Instructions and Greetings

**11** For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, **12** training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, **13** waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, **14** who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. **15** Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.



# TITUS 2:1-15

**Read verses 1-10 and answer the following questions:**

1. What main groups of people does Paul address in verses 1-10?
2. Identify the group you best fit into at this season of life. Based on Paul's instructions to your group, what do you already do well? Where do you see areas for growth?
3. Some people claim that they don't need to be in Christian community in order to be a Christian. How could you refute this claim based on Titus 2:1-10?

**Read verses 11-14 and answer the following questions:**

1. Who or what is Paul referring to when he says "the grace of God" in verse 11? Support your answer.
2. Based on verses 13-14, how should the redeeming work of Jesus Christ motivate us to do good works?
3. Does your current lifestyle fully reflect your hope in Jesus' return? If not, what area(s) do you need to change?

**Before you go...**

Based on Titus 2:2-10, is there anyone in our church you should be pouring into? Is there anyone that you would like to have pour into you? Share with the group and pray that God will allow you to develop those relationships.

# TITUS 3:1-15



## Be Ready for Every Good Work

**1** Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, **2** to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. **3** For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. **4** But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, **5** he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, **6** whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, **7** so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. **8** The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people. **9** But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. **10** As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, **11** knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

## Final Instructions and Greetings

**12** When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. **13** Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. **14** And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful. **15** All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.



# TITUS 3:1-15

## **Read verses 1-2 and answer the following questions:**

1. Paul listed several characteristics of godly conduct in verses 1-2. Which one(s) do you find the most difficult to live out? Why?
2. How could unbelieving family and friends be impacted if we were to actually live out these characteristics as we follow Jesus?

## **Read verses 3-8 and answer the following questions:**

1. What reason(s) does Paul give for devoting oneself to good works? What could happen if our motivation to do good works was based on something other than the reason(s) Paul gives?
2. How could thinking about your former way of life compel you to care for those in your life who do not know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior?

## **Read verses 9-11 and answer the following questions:**

1. What are some examples of foolish controversies, genealogies (i.e. family lineages), dissensions, and/or quarrels in the church today? What steps can we take as church (leaders and members) to keep such things from infiltrating our church?
2. Verses 10 tells us how to deal with divisive people in the church. How can you assist the church leaders in following Paul's instructions concerning divisive people?

## **Read verses 12-15 and answer the following questions:**

1. Where could you devote yourself more fully to good works for the sake of displaying Christ to others?

### **Before you go...**

Have each D-Group member share their biggest takeaway from the book of Titus.