

TITUS 3:8-11

Lesson #11

1. Begin with prayer. Confess any sin before you enter into studying God's Word.

Day One

2. What did you apply from last week's lesson? Share it with someone this week.
3. Read Titus 3:4-11. Beginning in verse 8, Paul shifts gears. What changes between verses 4-7 and verses 8-11?
4. What are "these things" to which Paul is referring in verse 8a (cf. 2:1-3:1-10)? How does he want Titus to talk to the church about them?
5. Who are the people Paul is describing in the last part of verse 8? In what are they supposed to engage? Why are "these things" good and profitable for all people (men)? What is at stake? How is this same concept reflected in the lives of the people mentioned in Luke 3:8-14?

6. Part of the problem with many people today who profess to be Christians, is that they say they believe in God but there is no evidence of changed lives. They simply continue to live in the same way as before. What does this communicate about God to a lost and dying world?
7. When a person has truly repented of his/her sin and placed his/her faith in Christ's finished work on the cross alone, by God's grace alone, what happens (2 Corinthians 5:17)? What is gone (Ephesians 4:22, Colossians 3:9)? How is this brought about (Titus 3:5)? Who in the Bible illustrates this so clearly (Acts 9:4-5,20-22)?
8. Does this describe you? Are you a new creature? Is your life transformed? Do you take God and His Word seriously? As a result of your salvation, are you careful to engage in good deeds so as to be a billboard for the Gospel? Think through your testimony. What are some evidences of a truly transformed life? What's different about you?

Pray:

- Pray that God will help you to take Him and His Word seriously.
- Pray that you will strive to demonstrate to a dying world what a transformed life looks like.
- Pray that as a result of your transformed life, many would conclude that your God is a saving God and they might come to salvation themselves.

Day Two

9. In verse 9 Paul offers a contrast to the things discussed at the end of verse 8. What contrast does Paul introduce in verse 9? What things are not good and profitable for men (cf. 1 Timothy 1:4,6:4; 2 Timothy 2:23; Titus 1:14)? What does Paul exhort Titus to do about this?
10. Look up the Greek word for “avoid” (*periistemi* G4026) or use your Titus Translation Comparisons to find the meaning. What is Titus literally being asked to do, and to teach the church to do?
11. During Titus’s day, there were church “trouble-makers” who loved to argue about words and genealogies. This seems to indicate that they had a Jewish background and wanted to build doctrines based on tradition. What might be some modern day examples of useless arguments, and heresies in the churches today? What do you think the ultimate motivation is for those who engage in these arguments?
12. Why are these types of discussions unprofitable and worthless? What can it lead to? See Acts 15:24, 1 Timothy 1:19-20, and 2 Timothy 2:14,16-17 to help you think through this carefully.

13. Jesus teaches that “man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). Read the following verses and summarize the main point after each verse reference. Then fill in how you can live this out practically, thereby “avoiding” the useless and unprofitable things mentioned in verse 9. Try to guess what each header should be. *Hint: It involves a fun acronym that will help you to remember what Jesus had in mind.

M_____

Proverbs 7:1-3

Practically, I can implement this truth by:

E_____

Acts 17:10-11

Practically, I can implement this truth by:

A_____

Matthew 7:24-27 (cf. James 1:22-24)

Practically, I can implement this truth by:

L_____

1 Samuel 3:10 (cf. Hebrews 4:12, John 10:27)

Practically, I can implement this truth by:

S_____

2 Timothy 2:15

Practically, I can implement this truth by:

What does the acronym spell out?

*This acronym will help you remember the importance of a well-balanced spiritual diet that should be part of every Christian's daily discipline.☺

Pray:

- Pray for the elders at your church who are called to guard against the false teachers who creep into the church.
- Confess any sin that came to mind as you studied today.
- Pray that God would help you to incorporate necessary spiritual disciplines as spelled out in question #13.
- Pray that out of love for Christ, you will begin to nurture discernment in your life so that you can avoid things which are unprofitable and worthless and do not bring glory to God.

Day 3

14. Besides avoiding things that are unprofitable and worthless, according to verse 10, what else was Titus to do?
15. Look at some parallel translations and a cross reference to help you with understanding the word, “factious.” If you have the time, look up this adjective in the dictionary and define it (*aibretikos* -- G141).

NASB	ESV	NKJ	NIV
factious			
unruly (1 Thessalonians 5:14)			

16. How does a person like this act in a church setting? What would he have concern with, or not have concern with?
17. Read Matthew 18:15-17. How would Titus go about giving these two warnings? What would be involved in each warning? What kind of warnings would they be (1 Thessalonians 5:14)?

18. What did Paul tell Titus to do if these factious people do not repent after two warnings? Taking Matthew 18:17 into account, what does that mean? You can also look the word up in the original language to help with understanding (*paraitomai* – G3868).
19. While it's true that false teachers who creep into the church are divisive, Paul is also including anyone in the church who is divisive or disruptive. Think through your day or your week. Have you come across individuals in the church who are factious? If so, what have you done about it? Like Jesus in Matthew 18:15-17, Paul's exhortation is one of directness and specificity. Why is this a difficult command to obey? What are some hindrances in following this exhortation, even for church leaders?

Pray:

- Pray that God would give you courage and boldness should you have to warn an individual who is divisive in your church body.
- Confess any sin of being divisive yourself. Ask God to help you to discern what you need to change in this area so you can begin to engage in good deeds that are a reflection of your transformed life.
- Pray for those who you know in your own church body who have been disciplined in the church -- that they would repent and be restored to the body of Christ.

Day 4

20. According to the Paul in verse 11, what is the assumption to be made about a factious person if he or she does not respond to one or two warnings?

21. What does Paul have in mind here? Look up these adjectives.

Perverted – *ekstrepho* - G1612

Sinning – *hamartano* - G264

Self-Condemed – *autokatakritos* - G843

22. Read Romans 16:17-18 and 1 Corinthians 10:12. Why must we keep our eyes on those who cause dissensions? Why must we turn away from such individuals? What is their agenda? Why must we be on guard and heed Paul's warning in 1 Corinthians 10:12?

Pray:

- Pray for discernment against those who seek to deceive you.
- Pray for those who are factious; pray for their repentance.
- Confess any sin of which you were convicted today, and ask for courage to go to those you have sinned against, and ask for their forgiveness.

Day 5

23. In this lesson we have learned the importance of living God's way amongst an unbelieving world. By way of reminder, re-read Titus chapter two. How are you instructed to live in your society as a Christian woman, wife, and mother (vv.1-9)? How are you able to fulfill these important priorities that are precious to God (vv.11-14)?

24. Read Matthew 28:19-20. How might the godly priorities listed in Titus help you live out the Great Commission with your children and other woman you meet? Keep in mind that the main command is, "As you are going, make disciples." What does that look like at church with believers? What does that look like in the world with unbelievers?

Application:

25. Apply the lesson from this week by asking yourself:

a. Have I learned something new about God?

b. Is there a promise on which I can meditate today that gives me hope?

Talk to God:

Praise and thanksgiving:

Confession:

Requests for self and others: