



## Wednesday Night Service

April 21, 2021 ~

“Study on the Book of Titus – Zealous for Good Works – Session 1”

Introduction: There are many New Testament books that are more relevant in the ministry of the church such as: Acts, Galatians and even I and II Corinthians, so why the Book of Titus? The answer may surprise you.

The reason is actually simple. Titus is designed to help the church become zealous for good works. Simply put it is mobilizing our church for the good of our community. (Read: Matthew 5:14-16) in this passage, Jesus tells his disciples that they are to be “a city on a hill”. What does this mean? We are to let our light shine. To do this is to do good works.

The theme of Titus is good works. Actually, good works is mentioned everywhere in the book of Titus. It is a constant theme throughout the Book.

(Read: Titus 1:8,16 & Titus 2:7,14) There are two key passages in the Book of Titus. Titus 2:11-14 and Titus 3:3-8. These passages are two central theological concerns of this letter.

So, let’s look at two key points regarding good works:

### GOOD WORKS ARE ESSENTIAL TO AUTHENTIC FAITH IN TITUS.

What does this mean? If there is faith, then there must be good works.

We are to live a life of obedience. Good works must always accompany true faith. (Read: Titus 1:1) Paul is saying here that: Authentic faith in God and genuine knowledge of the truth inevitably leads to godliness or a life of good works.

(Read: Titus 3:8) Paul is saying here that we must insist on doing these things. We are to be diligent in devoting ourselves to good works.

(Read: Titus 1:16) In this verse, Paul gives a warning regarding false teachers. He says “they profess to know God, but deny Him by their works.”

(Key) The necessity of good works is Key in the life of the true believer. So, where does the insistence upon the necessity of good works come from? It comes from an understanding of the gospel. It’s an understanding of the gospel of good works. But wait: you are probably asking that our salvation is not based on works right? Isn’t it placing our faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ? The answer is Yes. It doesn’t seem logical to use the gospel and good works in the same sentence, right? Well, no. Yes, we are saved by placing our faith in Christ, but it does not stop there.

(Key) Good works give evidence of our faith in Christ. In other words, because we are saved by faith, we will want to do good works! (Read: Ephesians 2:8-9)

In this verse, Paul says: By grace we are saved through faith, but then he goes on to say “that we are created in Christ Jesus” for what? GOOD WORKS. Because of this Paul says we are to walk in them.” In other words, we are to do good works.

(Read: Titus 2:11-14) These verses have a two-fold message regarding good works.

On one hand, we are saved for good works.

On the other hand, we are saved not because of good works.

(Key) Good works are not the guard but the goal of the gospel. In other words, Good works are not special they are essential to authentic faith.

### GOOD WORKS ARE EVANGELISTIC IN THEIR THRUST IN THE BOOK OF TITUS

In Titus, good works are for the sake of outsiders: good works are evangelistic in their thrust.

Meaning This: When we meet practical needs of others, it opens the door to the gospel. What are ways we can meet practical needs of others?

(Read: Titus 2:7) In this verse, Paul says “showing ourselves to be a pattern of good works.” Good works should always be a pattern of our lives. In these verses, Paul talks about qualities we should show in our life: Things such as: being sober-minded, reverent, having integrity and sound speech.

(Key) All of these things are important to our witness.

(Read: Titus 3:1-2) Paul again continues here on the theme of good works by saying we need to do these things: Be subject to rulers and authorities. Always be ready to do good works, Do not speak evil towards anyone. We are to seek peace.

These qualities are important to our witness as well.

(Key) The lives of Christians must be exemplary within our community.

Good works of the church are profitable for people. How? Two ways:

- 1.) They bless people’s lives. They bless our lives too.
- 2.) They beautify the gospel of God’s grace. They bring glory to God.

(Key) Good works serve as a vital evangelistic purpose! So, let’s do good works!!