



Life Group Study Guide

TITUS 3:1-7 (ESV)

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.

CONNECT

School is finally out and summer is here! What is something you are looking forward to this summer?

CONSIDER

1. What is something that stood out to you from the sermon this week?
2. What was Titus to remind the believers?
 - In what way does putting into practice the Godly lifestyle, described in this passage, impact our relationships with those in the church and outside the church?
3. What does a “gentle” person, one who shows “perfect courtesy toward all people” look like?
 - Have you experienced such a person in your life?
 - What impact have they had on your faith?
4. Consider the attitude that Paul calls believers to demonstrate towards unbelievers.
 - Is Paul’s instruction consistent with what we see from believers in our culture?
 - Why or why not?

EPHESIANS 2: 1-5 (ESV)

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins **2** in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— **3** among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, **5** even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

5. Many in our culture believe people are “mostly good people that sometimes do bad things”. How does Paul describe our lives before Christ in **v. 3** and **Ephesians 2:1-3**?

6. Remembering how lost you were prior to encountering the transforming grace of Christ can be a real antidote to pride...

- How did you experience being enslaved - apart from Christ?
- Share with the group how you felt or how you lived apart from Christ?

7. The “But” in **v. 4**, signifies a change. What is the basis of this change according to the passage?

8. What does this show us about the power of the Gospel to transform lives?

9. How does the “washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit” describe the spiritual change that happens to a new believer?

10. Read **Titus 3:4-7** and **Ephesians 2:4-5**. Describe God’s motivation in changing us.

- What has God saved you from and what has it been like to experience the renewal by the Holy Spirit in your life?

11. What is the difference between doing good works to gain salvation and doing good works because one has been granted salvation?

PRAYER REQUESTS:

RESPOND

1. Looking over the Godly lifestyle that we see in **v. 1-2...**

- Which is the most difficult for you and why?
- What can you do to change that?

2. In our culture, performance is a big deal. It can be easy to carry this over into our spiritual life.

- How can we fall into the trap of a performance based salvation?
- When salvation is wrongly based on performance how does that reflect on Christ's sacrifice?

3. How does being a responsible citizen impact how others view Christians and ultimately Christ?

- How can the church build bridges for the Gospel and remain distinct?