

SHiNE Titus 3:8-11 for 11/12/15

**Facilitators PLEASE give each lady in your D Group an Invitation

*Betty, would you please pray for the testimony for next week?

6 pm Leaders Prayer

6:15 Refresh

6:30 Announcements: Everyone involved in a C or D group or would like to lead one there will be an important training THIS Saturday here at CHC

- Jay and Jan will be teaching for one hour on C Groups (explain what a C Group is) and that I will be teaching on how to lead a D Group using our PB&J bookmark (explain what a D Group is).

- C Group Training with Jay and Jan is at 2:30 on Saturday
- D Group Training with Steve is at 3:45 on Saturday
- All at CHC

*The Road, Daughters of The King, Christmas Tea! Seating is limited!

-See Invitation

-To Register, please see Betty Garcia

-If you would like to **host a table** and bring your Christmas dishes to prepare a beautiful table for 8 ladies, please see Jan Inman to sign up!

6:40 Pray - Ezk. 44:28 "The priests will not have any property or possession of land, for I alone am their special possession.

6:45 Testimony Nugget- ? (Kristy B., Pam or Kathleen?)

6:55 Message

7:30 Worship- Amanda

7:50 D Groups

Last week we talked about Saved in Order to Do Good

8 things we do: NIV- Titus **3:1 & 2: 1) Remind the people 2) be subject to rulers and authorities, 3) be obedient, 4) be ready to do whatever is good, 5) slander no one, 6) be peaceable 7) be considerate, 8) and always be gentle toward everyone.**

From vs. 3-7: 1) Remember who you were: ³ At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another **2) Know who you are:** ⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, **& 3) Why:** ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life."

* * This week we're talking about:

Participating In Good - Titus 3:8-11

8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to **devote** themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone. ⁹ But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. ¹⁰ Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them. ¹¹ You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned."

* (AMP) Titus 3:8-11

⁸ "This is a faithful *and* trustworthy saying; and concerning these things I want you to **speak with great confidence**, so that those who have believed God [that is, those who have trusted in, relied on, and accepted Christ Jesus as Savior,] will be careful (*to DEVOTE themselves*) to participate in doing good *and* honorable things. These things are excellent [in themselves] and profitable for the people. ⁹ But avoid foolish *and* ill-informed *and* stupid controversies and genealogies and dissensions and quarrels about the Law, for they are unprofitable and useless. ¹⁰ After a first and second warning reject a **divisive** man [who promotes heresy and causes dissension—ban him from your fellowship and have nothing more to do with him], ¹¹ well aware that such a person is twisted and is sinning; he is convicted *and* self-condemned [and is gratified by causing confusion among believers]."

MSG Titus 3: 8-11 "I want you to put your foot down. Take a firm stand on these matters so that those who have put their trust in God will concentrate on the essentials that are good for everyone. Stay away from mindless, pointless quarreling over genealogies and fine print in the law code. That gets you nowhere. Warn a quarrelsome person once or twice, but then be done with him. It's obvious that such a person is out of line, rebellious against God. By persisting in divisiveness he cuts himself off."

There are few things that we can say is good for all!!! Most clothes that say one size fits all usually don't fit anyone well. Even the Golden Rule, "do unto others as you would have them do to you", I wouldn't want a shotgun for my birthday, but Denny would get excited about one.

Denny does well with dairy, I don't.

BUT here is one thing you can be confident of for everyone: (everyone likes chocolate! ;)

"DOING GOOD" is profitable for EVERYONE!

We are citizens of Light, to SHINE in our homes & communities!

Are we prepared to "Do Good Deeds"?

Illustration: Which is more important, to be a person of faith, or deeds?

-It's like a hand in a glove! The glove does nothing without the hand, but the hand is unproductive for work without the glove! I use to build barbed wire fences with my dad & if we didn't have gloves, we didn't work! God protects us from the sharp barbs in peoples lives!

If you are the glove, who is in & working through you? I'm praying God's working in & thru me, not self or Satan.

Faith and Deeds James 2:14-26

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.¹⁹You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

²⁰You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless^[d]? ²¹Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²²You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. ²³And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,"^[e] and he was called God's friend. ²⁴You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.

²⁵In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? ²⁶As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead."

-Whether it's Abraham or Rahab, they were both considered righteous because of their actions!

Some say body language is as high as 85% of the conversation, which means our words only account for about 15% of our communication!

What are we communicating through our words and actions to others?

Are we prepared to do good deeds?

What does preparation look like, carrying a backpack filled with things to give away?

True preparation begins in the heart first!

Good works start with loving God, forgiving ourselves and others, this prepares our hearts to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, gentle & self-controlled.

Mark 12:30-31 (NLT)

³⁰And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.'^[e] ³¹The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'^[b] No other commandment is greater than these."

~We can have confidence in God and His Word, because as vs 8 says, "8 "This is a faithful *and* trustworthy saying; and concerning these things I want you to **speak with great confidence**, so that those who have believed God [that is, those who have trusted in, relied on, and accepted Christ Jesus as Savior,] will be careful (*to DEVOTE themselves*) to participate in doing good *and* honorable things. These things are excellent [in themselves] and profitable for the people. "

con-fi-dence noun: **confidence**

1. the feeling or belief that one can rely on someone or something; firm trust.

synonyms: trust, belief, faith, credence, conviction

- o the state of feeling certain about the truth of something
synonyms: self-assurance, self-confidence, self-possession, assertiveness;
 poise, aplomb, phlegm;
 courage, boldness, mettle, nerve

antonyms: uncertainty, doubt

v.8 says to devote themselves to doing what is good. To turn towards-

de-vote verb:

1. give all or a large part of one's time or resources to (a person, activity, or cause).
 "I wanted to devote more time to my family"
synonyms: assign, allot, commit, give (over), pledge

Origin: late 16th century (in the sense 'dedicate formally, consecrate'): from Latin *devot-* 'consecrated,' from the verb *devovere*, from **de-** 'formally' + **vovere** 'to vow.'

To turn away from-

Titus 3:9 "But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless."

I get a kick out of genealogies, I think it is great to know the history of our families, to honor our parents and for fathers! I'm related to Ruth, the grandmother of King David, Thomas Rolf, and Pocahontas. There's probably some shady characters back there too somewhere, but whether it's Ruth, Rolf or Pocahontas, they all need God and the only way to him is through Jesus Christ!

-God is coaching us on the importance of finding our identity in Christ, not all our ancestors who needed Jesus too! Honor them, worship God!

What are foolish controversies?

Barclay's Daily Study Bible says:

"Titus 3:9-11 warns against useless discussions. The Greek philosophers spent their time on their fine-spun problems. The Jewish Rabbis spent their time building up imaginary genealogies for the characters of the Old Testament. The Jewish scribes spent endless hours discussing what could and could not be done on the Sabbath, and what was and was not unclean. It has been said that there is a danger that a man may think himself religious because he discusses religious questions. It is much easier to discuss theological questions than to be kind and considerate and helpful at home, or efficient and diligent and honest at work. There is no virtue in sitting discussing deep theological questions when the simple tasks of the Christian life are waiting to be done. Such discussion can be nothing other than an evasion of Christian duties.

Paul was certain that the real task of the Christian lay in Christian action. That is not to say that there is no place for Christian discussion; but the discussion which does not end in action is very largely wasted time.

_ This goes back to vs. 1 & 2, be subject to rulers & authorities.

We may not agree with what those in authority, but we can have an attitude of honor towards them. Even if their rulings are not biblical, we can honorably disagree and decline.

-The Message spells verse 10 & 11 out very plainly, "Warn a quarrelsome person once or twice, but then be done with him. It's obvious that such a person is out of line, rebellious against God. By persisting in divisiveness he cuts himself off."

Barclay says, "It is Paul's advice that the contentious and opinionative man should be avoided. The King James Version calls him the heretic. The Greek is *hairetikos* ([Greek #141](#)). The verb *hairein* means "**to choose**"; and *hairesis* ([Greek #139](#)) means "a party, or a school or a sect." Originally the word carries no bad meaning. This creeps in when a man erects his private opinion against all the teaching, the agreement and the tradition of the Church. A heretic is simply a man who has **decided** that he is right and everybody else is wrong. Paul's warning is against the man who has made his own ideas the test of all truth."

di·vi·sive- *adjective*

1. tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people.

synonyms: alienating, estranging, **isolating**, **schismatic**

-A divisive person often carries the spirit of being a victim. Their emotions are tied to what others do, so they desperately try to control others. A victim says, "I am the way I am, because you are the way you are. If you weren't the way you are I wouldn't be the way I am".

So

When we connect the train of our life to God through Christ, we are no longer a victim to what everyone else does or does not do.

-Paul is coaching Titus on how to grow a strong church. To have a strong church, marriage, family, home, or community we cannot tolerate the attitude of one who causes disagreements and hostility between people.

-These negative attributes of being Controversial, Argumentative, Quarrelsome, & Divisive are unprofitable to all! Where on the flip side, choosing to do GOOD is beneficial to all!

-If after following Matt. 18:15-17, someone **chooses** to continue with attitudes of dividing people, alienating, estranging, isolating or causing schisms they must be removed or it will infect the entire community they are associated with.

VS 11 says they are self-condemned, they cut themselves off, this is because they continue to choose that which is unprofitable and useless. They do not have an attitude of repentance or changing their minds towards submission to authority, they usually have a disdain for any authority that would instruct them in any way they do not like.

As women, we are to wisely cultivate a gentle and quiet spirit that promotes connection with those in our family and community, demonstrating honor and respect for authority.

Why did Jesus come to earth?

Many would say to make a way for the lost to come to God, to set the captives free by dying on the Cross. That He did, and we are all thankful, but 1st He came out of obedience to His Father.

Do you see, that because Jesus 1st submitted to His authority, the Father, then he was able to walk do, **3:1** "Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, ² to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone."

Jesus was able to: "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people," Eph. 6:7 &

Col. 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,"

Jesus put God first, not us, and as we put God 1st, we will be able to bless others out of a pure heart. Keeping God first keeps our hearts clean of These negative attributes of being

Controversial, Argumentative, Quarrelsome, & Divisive which are unprofitable to all!

-And we are able to do 1 Cor.15:58 AMP

"Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord [always doing your best and doing more than is needed], being *continually* aware that your labor [even to the point of exhaustion] in the Lord is not futile *nor* wasted [it is never without purpose]."

Do you see the purpose?

If we labor without God's purpose we labor in vain, it is easily dissipated, but if we labor with purpose in Christ, then we have our heart and soul engaged with the Lord and can receive empowerment by the Holy Spirit!

-From Titus 3:3-7:

Remember who you were before Christ, know who you are in Christ & why!

2 Cor.5:17 "Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

-In order to do the good God is calling us to do we must be in Christ, knowing we are loved by Christ, and loving Christ with our whole heart and energies.

-Then our hearts are set free & our deeds are out of a pure heart of giving, not getting.

-Doing good opens people's hearts to God, as we are His ambassadors, it makes it easier for people to desire Jesus, and forgive. Forgiveness sets people free!

2 Cor. 5:17-20 ¹⁸ And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. ¹⁹ For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. ²⁰ So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

-How people act toward me is between them and God, how I act toward others is between God and me.

-How we treat others and respond to them is between God and us.

As Jesus so beautifully modeled these principles in Eph 6:7 & Col. 3:23.

What we do, we do as unto the Lord, not man. This keeps our focus is on the Lord, just as Jesus focus was not on the Cross, but obeying His Father. And if we will do the same, we will find our victory in the Father through Christ!

Poem: "Do It Anyway" by Mother Teresa

This was found written on the wall in Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta:

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

1 Pet. 2:12 AMP "Keep your behavior excellent among the [unsaved] Gentiles [conduct yourself honorably, with graciousness and integrity], so that ^(a)for whatever reason they may slander you as evildoers, yet by observing your good deeds they may [instead come to] glorify God ^(b)in the day of visitation [when He looks upon them with mercy].",

Lord, As we heard the convicting story of how Cimmerman observed Jakov last week, would you please help us we wear your coat well? For **"In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway."**