

“TURN TO THE TRUTH”: SHiNE Titus 1:10-16 Notes 10/8/15

Announcements:

-Come once or come every week, if you have a friend, daughter, sister, mother or neighbor that can only come once, bring her and let her enjoy the wonderful ladies in your D group!

-Recordings of the teachings will soon be available on our website, shineattheroad, and maybe the notes, rough though they may be!

NLT

10” For there are many rebellious people who engage in useless talk and deceive others. This is especially true of those who insist on circumcision for salvation. 11 They must be silenced, because they are turning whole families away from the truth by their false teaching. And they do it only for money. 12 Even one of their own men, a prophet from Crete, has said about them, “The people of Crete are all liars, cruel animals, and lazy gluttons.”[e] 13 This is true. So reprimand them sternly to make them strong in the faith. 14 They must stop listening to Jewish myths and the commands of people who have turned away from the truth. 15 Everything is pure to those whose hearts are pure. But nothing is pure to those who are corrupt and unbelieving, because their minds and consciences are corrupted. 16 Such people claim they know God, but they deny him by the way they live. They are detestable and disobedient, worthless for doing anything good.” NLT

DO YOU WANT TO BE FREE?

DO YOU WANT YOUR MARRIAGE OR MARRIAGE TO- BE, FREE?

DO YOU WANT YOUR CHILDREN FREE?

DO YOU WANT FREEDOM????

We must TURN to the TRUTH!

FREEDOM DOES NOT COME FREE!!!

JESUS DIED for YOUR & MY FREEDOM!

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH HIS SACRIFICE?

Hold up a check for \$20, who wants \$20? Come and get it!

Do you have \$20, or do you have the promise of \$20?

What do you have to do access the \$20?

That's right, CASH IT IN!

Just like we NEED to "CASH IN" ON THE PROMISES OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST! So we can live in the freedom of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and self-control He DIED to give us these true riches!

*Come on Ladies, let's TURN TO THE TRUTH and read The Word as God's PROMISE to us, because it is His promise to YOU, for now, TO live an overcoming life right now! Not some day in heaven, but now.

Matt. 6:10 says: "your kingdom come,
your will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven."

Matt. 6:9-13 KJV

((~ Let's say the Lord's Prayer together

"Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

¹⁰ Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread.

¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

Titus

1:10 -" For there are many rebellious people who engage in useless talk and deceive others. This is especially true of those who insist on circumcision for salvation." (A mindset of legalism and works)

As we have talked about mindsets that set us up against God's design and sometimes against God himself or mental strongholds, rebellion often starts with undealt with wounds from childhood that turns into anger. We set up beliefs and patterns to self-protect and in the process many unbeneficial things happen in our lives, of which rebellion is one.

My daughter in law, Morgan, shared a quote with me this week that is poignant,

by Lao Tzu, "If you are depressed you are living in the past, if you are anxious, you are living in the future, if you are at peace you are living in the present". I added, because the "present" is a gift!

Did you know that useless talk starts as useless thoughts 1st?

use-less *adjective*

1. not fulfilling or not expected to achieve the intended purpose or desired outcome.

2.

synonyms: **futile**, to no avail, (in) vain, **pointless**, to no purpose, **unavailing**, **hopeless**, **ineffectual**, **ineffective**, to no effect, **fruitless**, **unprofitable**, profitless, **unproductive**;

Do you ever walk away from a conversation or meeting with people and feel like you have to pull arrows out of your chest or back after leaving?

May our conversations edify, even our enemies are created in God's image, we can edify them.

Our words bring life or death don't they?!

Prov. 18:20-22 ²⁰ A man's stomach will be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; He will be satisfied with the consequence of his words. ²¹ Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it *and* indulge it will eat its fruit *and* bear the consequences of their words.

And I don't think it's a mistake that vs. 22 follows, speaking about a true and faithful wife!:

²² He who finds a [**b** true and faithful] wife finds a good thing
And obtains favor *and* approval from the Lord."

-Have you ever correlated useless talk as rebellion?

-What if our words are useless, deceiving and defrauding others?

-Have you ever considered that your conversations can be prayers? Our conversations are not between you and the other person; they are between you, God and the other person. Ouch, I know really convicting to me too!!!

-With our words are we building up and can be used of the Lord to help others, or we tear down and are used by Satan to hurt, wound, deceive and lead others astray from the Truth INTO lies, deception, rebellion and darkness?

I'm walking through a time right now in my life where the wounds from my father in childhood turned to anger in me, and hurt one of our children. I'm grieved and regret my actions of anger, I've asked the Lord for

forgiveness and know I am free from the wounds my father inflicted upon me. They had to be addressed and forgiven so I could be free to heal and repent for the things I did in my wounded state.

If we forgive and repent we won't repeat the sins done to us!

I asked the Lord, am I rebellious? And He reminded me of a couple times in my life.

STORY: When I was a sophomore in High School I dated a young man that worked for my Dad. We were out riding horses one cold Sunday afternoon after a particularly wet season of heavy rains in Plano, TX, just north of Dallas. As we were going through an area where there had been construction of power lines my horse, Dinah, stepped into what I thought was a muddy area, but ended up being a sink hole!!! Down we went into the mud, up to her legs, belly, and then as we struggled to get out of the muddy pit it began to cover my legs and then as I dismounted only her head and neck remained above the mud! I could feel big rocks and debris deep in the mud and I was concerned for her legs. I pushed, got out and pulled, she struggled, to the point of exhaustion for both of us, we realized we had to find another way. In the distance we heard a tractor working. What are the chances on a Sunday, way out in the boonies!? God's grace! Don went to find the person with the tractor and the man just happened to have a rope with him. I got the rope tied around her body behind her front legs and the man gently pulled her out with his tractor, as we pushed and she labored with us.

It was a sobering event in my life. I felt so responsible for directing her to walk through that mud pit! I had no idea the depths or danger of what we were stepping into!

If someone would have told me there was a deep muddy pit under the power lines I would have been more careful. Probably would of gone another way!

-Are we talking to our young people about the muddy pits of lies, deception and sin?

In our youth many of us heard of the importance of knowing God and not sinning, but were we taught why?

Lack of knowledge and rebellion is similar, we fall into the pit either way.

That is what lack of knowing God and His ways, and rebellion toward God is like, we may think we are stepping into a little bit of mud, but little do we know how it can engulf us with bondage.

BUT GOD in his grace and mercy is far greater; like the man with the tractor and rope, when we repent, and cry out to Him, he will gently pull us out of the sink hole of rebellion, cleanse us with the Blood of Jesus and set us free to walk as redeemed daughters of The King!

Like the tractor had power over the pit, so Christ has power of ALL of our sin!

-This is the power of the Cross! It is FAR greater than the grip of sin, but we must humble ourselves, and realize we cannot get ourselves out, we need Jesus!!!

STORY: In 1997 I was rebelling against God's ways in my marriage, because I didn't know what His ways were.

You see we can be walking in rebellion consciously or unconsciously.

It's like gravity, whether we are conscious or unconscious of it, it's still working in our lives for our good or harm.

I had grown up in the Church, but I didn't know His design for manhood, womanhood and marriage.

Which, by the way, in January we will begin a study on, "Made to SHiNE", talking about God's biblical design for us as women.

I was angry deep down at Denny & myself, I thought all men just didn't get it and yet I didn't really care to get together with women either. I had my close friends, but avoided women's gatherings at all cost. And look what God had done in my life! After studying God's design for biblical manhood and womanhood and submitting myself to His design, I now love women and have a deep respect for men!

I had to pull down the mental strongholds, lies I had believed for years and replace them with God's truth to be set free in my femininity, and appreciate the way God made men.

Inside Scoop: In Jan. I will be teaching, "Made to SHiNE", a study on how God made men and women to SHiNE for him, a gender study on biblical femininity! As Ally and I were talking Sat. morning about the antique shows where they find a very expensive vase being used as a door stop, why? Because they didn't know the value of it! Ladies, this is our sexuality, masculinity and femininity is being used as a door stop in our culture and God wants us to understand the value and beauty of it!

Then God said something that puzzled me at first. Yes, you are also rebellious in a good way, what, how can rebellious be good?!

Yes, not to me, but to the conformity of this Age! We will rebel against God or Satan. Not to decide is to decide. There is no such thing as being static, we are either growing or dying, obedient or disobedient. If you think to yourself, "I'm not going to decide", what is that? You are deciding not to decide!

Where does that lead?

We need to be aware, am I engaging in useless talk and deceiving others or are my conversations edifying?

Rebellious:

Dictionary.com

"Defying or resisting some established authority, government, or tradition; insubordinate; inclined to rebel."

Ladies, we

Merriam Webster

“Refusing to obey rules or authority or to accept normal standards of behavior, dress, etc. “

Cambridge Dictionary Online

“If a group of people are rebellious, they oppose the ideas of the people in authority and plan to change the system, often using force.”

[What force do we use as Christians? Yes, Prayer! That’s why it is so important that we war in prayer, not with people! Christine Hawk]

“If someone is rebellious, they are difficult to control and do not behave in the way that is expected. “

-We war with love, forgiveness, kindness, encouragement... these plunder the kingdom of darkness and open wide the doors of people’s hearts to God’s Kingdom of light!

Vs. 11” They must be silenced, because they are turning whole families away from the truth by their false teaching. And they do it only for money.”

I was turning my family away from the Truth of God’s design through my example in ways I was acting with Denny and with my angry outbursts to the kids. It stemmed from my own rebellion toward God. We teach more through our actions than we ever do through our words, what are we teaching?

How often do we compromise our own beliefs and convictions for money?

I rebel against the world’s culture that says we have to have _____ or accomplish _____ to be a person of value in other’s eyes. Ladies, our value comes from God himself! Our identity is found only in Him!

-What we do, we do as unto the Lord, Col. 3:23 says, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters”.

Vs. 12-13 “12 Even one of their own men, a prophet from Crete, has said about them, “The people of Crete are all liars, cruel animals, and lazy gluttons.”[e] 13 This is true. So reprimand them sternly to make them strong in the faith.”

People who are liars, cruel, lazy and gluttons are to be reprimanded sternly to make them strong in the faith. Not to criticize them, but to help them.

Why do we reprimand our children when they lie, are cruel or lazy? To harm them or to help them correct the way they see so they can correct their actions?

-This is the heart of our Father toward us!

Vs. 14-“ They must stop listening to Jewish myths and the commands of people who have turned away from the truth.”

-We must stop listening to people who are legalistic, speaking out of cultural myths/lies and those that speak out of a heart that has turned away from the truth.

How do we know who to listen to or not, there are a lot of voices out here. Parents, pastors, teachers, family, friends, radio preachers, books, blogs... EVEN our own thoughts! How do we discern who and what to listen to?

-We TURN TO THE TRUTH!

1st we MUST have a foundation to drop our plumb line from!

2nd that foundation must be salvation in Jesus Christ, not just believing that He is, but that we ask him to forgive us of our sins and ask him to be our Lord and Savior AND receive His love, forgiveness and grace!

3rd our plumb line MUST be THE WORD OF GOD! We NEED to know the Word, be in it, read it, listen to it, talk about it, live it, share it, think from it, hope from it, dream from it, let it be our core! It is the plumb line that sets all our crooked and broken lines straight!!! TRUTH encounters, when we turn to the truth, we turn from the lies!

4th we NEED to be critical thinkers (not critical people) aligning EVERYTHING, each thought, action and decision upon the Word of God and His design!

5th Discern the foundation of the person or information you are questioning to see if it aligns with the truth and design of God’s Word. If you are not sure, ask one of your mentors or one who knows and walks with Jesus in the truth of God’s Word.

Listen to

Vs. 15 “Everything is pure to those whose hearts are pure. But nothing is pure to those who are corrupt and unbelieving, because their minds and consciences are corrupted.”

Our computers are like us in this!

-Sin is a virus that corrupts our hard drive!

-And just like our computer, when there is no virus to corrupt our files, we work well for our Master, our hearts/hard drives are pure, working efficiently. BUT once we allow our relationship with our firewall, the Holy Spirit, to be corrupted by lies, unforgiveness, deception, resentment... then nothing works well or at all! And it infects any other computer it networks with.

Vs. 16- “Such people claim they know God, but they deny him by the way they live. They are detestable and disobedient, worthless for doing anything good.” NLT

Let's turn this verse around, what is the antithesis of what vs. 16 is saying?

~ People who claim to know God accept him, and it is evident by the way they live. They are a blessing to others, obedient people, who are valued citizens doing many good things.

Group: Take turns read Titus 1:10-16

Questions:

1. What does it mean to TURN TOWARD THE TRUTH?
2. When you turn to the truth, what are you turning from? Be specific of things in your life and relationships.
3. Is the Lord convicting you in any area concerning your conversations? Share with the group.
4. How do you turn toward the Truth? Specific daily steps.
5. From Pv. 18:20-22 What does it mean to be a true and faithful wife?
6. What can you ask the Lord to help you with to be more true and faithful, whether it be to The Lord, my husband, fiancée or friends?

Application:

Write down 2-3 areas the Holy Spirit is speaking to you about turning from lies, deception and/or rebellion. This week seek the Lord and ask him for help to turn to his truth, discernment and obedience in these areas. As you seek the Lord this week and receive his help in turning to The Truth of God's Word and design, journal what He speaks to you and what happens.