

SERMON NOTES:



TITUS

WEEK 9

Titus 3:1-2 | Remembering Godliness

WESTERN MEADOWS BAPTIST CHURCH
SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

OPENING THOUGHT

As we enter the final third of Titus, we must recall briefly what was said thus far. Chapter one was primarily concerned with pastoral leadership within the church. Paul envisioned churches being led by multiple pastors, citing their qualifications and listing characteristics of false teachers. Chapter two focused upon church members as Paul encouraged everyone to be active in the works of discipleship and evangelism. The apostle then closed the chapter by reminding Titus and all Christians of our motivation for doing all forms of good works: the gospel.

As we enter chapter three, we will notice that it has a much more universal feel to it. This is because Paul's attention is no longer upon church members or leaders specifically; instead, he uses the final chapter to address the overall nature of living as the church, the body of Christ. He will once again present commands for us to live by, the gospel as our motivation for obeying, and closes with how the church is to remain a faithful witness of Jesus.

Our present text is a list of seven exhortations for all Christians to heed. By beginning with the words "remind them," we know that Paul considered each of these to be basic knowledge for Christ-like behavior, yet as with most things, our forgetful minds need continuous reminders and encouragements. Let us, therefore, approach these urgings toward godly living in light of the gospel, praying to display Christ in our lives each day.

SUGGESTED VERSES FOR MEMORIZATION & MEDITATION

- Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. (Titus 3:1-2)
- First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. (Matthew 5:5)

READ VERSES 1-2 AND DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING

1. Paul opens by urging us to be submissive to rulers and authorities (earthly leaders, particularly in governments) and to be obedient. In what ways does the Bible encourage us to be submissive to ruling authorities? Under what circumstances (if any) is disobedience permitted biblically for Christians?
2. Verse two begins by commanding us to speak evil of no one. What are a few characteristics of biblical, godly speech? Do you meet these standards?
3. Paul also exhorts us to refrain from being quarrelsome and to be gentle instead. How is a reasonable and gentle attitude a greater display of strength than being quarrelsome? How does this go against society's ideals?
4. Finally, the apostle encourages us to show perfect courtesy toward all people. How might we continue to show respect, kindness, and meekness even toward those who do appear to deserve it?

ACTIONS TO CONSIDER

- *Obey.* Since this text is simply an encouragement toward seven Christ-like actions, resolve to obey the Scriptures. These verses tell us what to do, so do it, remembering that we act in gratitude of God's grace, **not** from obligation or in attempt to earn God's favor.
- *Pray.* Ask God for grace to live more like Christ each day.

Western Meadows Small Groups

Richards / Sunday @ 6

Hearons / Sunday @ 6

Mays / Tuesday @ 6:30

Dills / Wednesday @ 7:00

Seniors / Thursday @ 11:30

For more information ask Pastor Cole