

Dig Deeper @Home – “Impress”

Complement to sermon on September 4, 2016 – “Fruitful Living”

MEMORIZE – Titus 2:11-12

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age

READ Titus 1:1-16; 3:12-15

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. Titus was one of the Apostle Paul’s most trusted and dependable coworkers. What was Titus’ background? (Was he a Jew or a Greek?) Where else was Titus with Paul? (Read Galatians 2:1-3)
4. Read 2 Corinthians 7:2-7. What does Paul say about the “impression” Titus made and what kind of character he displayed through his life?
5. Read Titus 1:5-9. Why is Paul’s list of leadership qualifications focused mostly on “being” and not on “doing”. Which of these qualities do you feel you need to develop in your own life to be more fruitful for God?
6. Who in your life have you especially appreciated for their godly leadership? Which of these qualities did you most appreciate in them?
7. As you read Titus 1:10-16, Paul refers to “persons who are “insubordinate or rebellious”. What are some of the qualities that are displayed in the lives of these persons. What is the fruit of their lives? (vs 16)

Bottom Line - Give a one or two sentence summary of the scripture:

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The ones below are suggestions for how to experience the truths of Titus 1 and God's call for us to live fruitful lives. Feel free to use one of these or any you might come up with.

Prayer, Care, Share

We are all called to shine the light of Jesus for others to see the fruit in our lives. (Matthew 5:16)

Think of several people you know who need to know the love of Jesus in their lives.

Write the three words **Prayer, Care, Share** on a separate index card or piece of paper.

Prayer: Write down the names on the Prayer card and Pray for them by name. Pray that they will have a desire to know God and that they will understand the truth of Jesus. Pray for an opportunity to share the good news about Jesus with them.

Care: Brainstorm some ways you can show care to the persons on your list. Be kind to them. Listen to them. Make a treat for them. Write a card or go visit. Offer to help if there is a need.

Share: Look for an opportunity to talk about God with them. Ask if there is anything they would need prayer for. Tell them of God's love for them. Invite them to consider learning more about Jesus.

SING (a suggested song to sing. Use this or any song you might want to sing)

I'm Pressing on the Upward Way – Mennonite Hymnal #582

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdFuxZ07SGc> May this be your desire as you ask God to help you grow and to bear fruit through your life.

My Heart is Yours - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzGDkJY6LqM> *Sing this song of worship as your commitment to giving your heart to Jesus so that he can fill you and use you for his kingdom work.*

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson: Lord, according to your grace and mercy, give me singleness of heart, mind and action so that everything I do and say today will serve you better and love you more and the fruit of my life will show the greatness of your love to others, strangers and family alike. Amen.