

Titus 3:1-15

Discussion Guide

Pray

Apart from God, we can do nothing. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion. Throughout your time together, continue asking God for help.

Read Scripture

Read all of Titus, with special focus on 3:1-15.

Bible Study: The HEAR Method

The bulk of your time will be spent discussing God's Word together. HEAR is an inductive Bible study method that looks closely at what the Bible says to discover what it means so that we can faithfully apply it to our lives.

HEAR stands for:

- **Highlight:** read and observe everything in the passage carefully.
- **Examine:** based on your observations, discover what the passage means in its context.
- **Apply:** determine how the meaning of the passage applies to your life.
- **Respond in prayer:** pray God's Word back to Him.

Remember:

- Walk through the Bible study together using the HEAR method and talk about what stuck out most to you in the passage.
- Make sure you move discussion to the application section of your study.
- Affections, beliefs, and practices: Make sure to apply the passage to all your life.

Pray

- Take time to pray for one another and ask for His grace to apply His Word to our daily lives.

Titus 3:1-15 (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.⁸ The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.⁹ But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.¹⁰ As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him,¹¹ knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

¹²When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.¹³ Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing.¹⁴ And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.

¹⁵*All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.*"

Open: In order to do your job (vocationally speaking) what is one thing you must keep before you in order to be effective/successful?

Study:

- 1) How do you think of God? What words do you use to describe Him?
- 2) What is Titus called to remind his church (see vs. 1-2)? Why do they need this reminder? What is Titus called to stress to his church (see vs. 8)? What is Titus told to avoid (see vs. 9)?
- 3) What uncomfortable truths about ourselves do we discover in verse 3?

Remember, "appeared" is Paul's phrase for the coming of God's salvation in Jesus.

- 4) How is this "appearing" described here in verses 4 and 5a?
- 5) Why did God save us (see vs. 5)? How is God's reasoning so different from what yours would have been?
- 6) What is the Holy Spirit's role in saving us?
- 7) How do these verses help us to "measure" the kindness and love of God towards us?
- 8) What is Titus called to stress to his church (see vs. 8)? What is Titus told to avoid (see vs. 9)? Why do you think Paul uses such strong language in verses 10-11 (consider the entire letter)?

Apply:

- 9) Which truth about God's kindness particularly thrills you today? Why?
- 10) How do verse 3-5 help us from feeling: a) proud? And b) worthless or hopeless?
- 11) Why do we often find ourselves focusing on disagreements and quarrels, rather than the gospel?
- 12) How can we "stress these things"—the content of verse 3-8a—in our conversations and everyday lives? Why is it true that we can never talk about the gospel too much?

PRAY:

- Take time thank God for the eternal life we have through Jesus.
- Confess to God where you find it easy to be distracted by unprofitable and worthless things.
- Ask God to enliven fresh joy and gratitude for His mercies towards you through the gospel.
- Ask God to give you opportunities to share the gospel this month with both believers and unbelievers.

NOTE: most questions have come from *The Good Book Guide to Titus* study by Tim Chester.