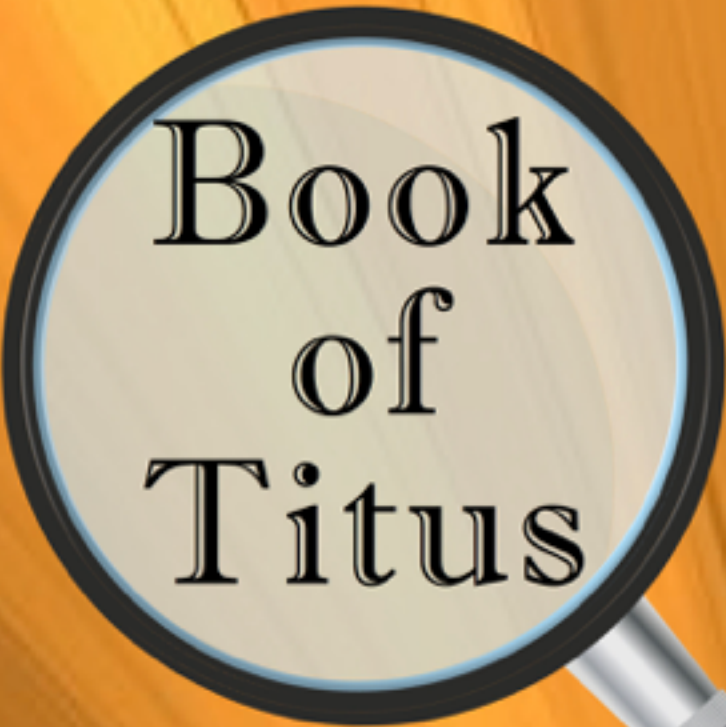


Inductive Bible Studies in the



Book of Titus

Paul Bucknell

Brian Conner

Ramesh Reddy

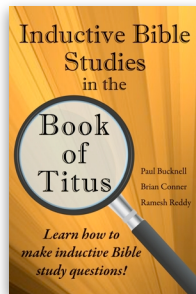
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Inductive Bible Studies In the Book of Titus



By

Paul Bucknell

Brian Conner

Ramesh Reddy

Book Information

Inductive Bible Studies In the Book of Titus: Learn How to
Make Inductive Bible Study Questions

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About This Book

This set of inductive Bible study questions was co-produced by Paul, Brian, and Ramesh. We had a great time studying and teaching God's Word to an adult Sunday School class and excited to share these materials with you!

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Introduction to Titus Inductive Bible Studies

Our goal

Our goal is to use the Book of Titus to train you in the inductive Bible study method. We desire that you learn how to form inductive Bible study questions and at the same time be refreshed and instructed by the Book of Titus. Being able to form such questions will greatly assist you in your own quiet time, teaching, and other forms of ministry.

We should not think this study provides all the training you might need in this area of inductive Bible study but it certainly will develop the skill of developing good Bible study questions. Each lesson begins with an approach question and then introduces observation, interpretation, and application questions, concluding with a summary. Each question is color-coded so that one can easily discover the difference between the kinds of questions.

Why should I study the Inductive Bible Study Method?

The Lord told Joshua that there were two prerequisites to being greatly blessed and successful. They included

being attentively obedient and meditating on God's Word day and night.

"7 Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go. 8 This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success" (Joshua 1:7-8).

The problem is that many of us simply do not know how to meditate. We live in an age of immediacy, quite the opposite training we need to meditate on God's Word. Reading God's Word is not the same as meditation. Meditation comes as we ponder upon God's Word. Creating and answering study questions help lead us through a passage to build up our ability to meditate on God's Word. The questions are there to serve you and others, not to hinder.

We (Paul, Brian, and Ramesh) have been greatly blessed through these studies. We each have our own testimony on how this Bible study method has greatly helped us in our own personal lives and ministries. We are eager for you to pick up these skills too! Once you become familiar with these study questions, these 'tools' (the Bible study method) will fade to the background during your time with

God and yet greatly enrich all your studies, personal or otherwise.

What is the Inductive Bible Study (IBS) method?

The inductive Bible study is only one of many kinds of Bible study methods, but it is the most valuable. Inductive Bible studies help a person understand and apply the true meaning of the Bible passage being studied. Deductive studies start with our overall assumptions of a Bible book while inductive studies start from scratch, allowing us to hear better and value the author's original intention.

The method is not difficult to learn and rotates around the development of three kinds of study questions: Observation, Interpretation, and Application.

Different Bible passages require slightly different approaches, but each book will mainly require the same basic study question format, combined with the yearning for God's Word to grip our heart. Our three kinds of provided questions will be intermingled with each other, passage by passage, as the first lesson on a manuscript study leads us.

Our Titus Studies

After the first lesson on manuscript study (dividing up of a Bible book into various passages by subject and providing a title), we tackle the remaining seven lessons in a similar way. When studying a larger book, be alert, this dividing up of the Bible book can take five or more hours.

Start by reading the Bible book several times and then rather quickly move through each chapter, dividing it up and assigning each paragraph a title. Try to ignore the provided paragraph breaks and titles. Upon completing that task, discover the Bible book's general outline. This can, however, be done after you have gone through the book. Titus is a short book, and as a class, we divided it up in just one class hour. The time was not quite enough, but we could get the necessary work done.



Approach questions begin each study, given even before reading the text. They are questions that induce one to think about the subject that will be discussed in the Bible passage so that the subject appears more relevant to our lives.

You will repeatedly hear that there are three kinds of questions. That is deliberate as we are training you to think in these three ways.

Observation: What does it say?

An inductive Bible study will utilize basic observation skills to see what the passage actually does say. Make note, even though one might read a Bible passage, it does not necessarily mean that one has observed what it said. A person forms observation questions by asking

one fact question from the Bible passage: Write down a who, what, when or how question on a certain verse.

As one spends an increased time thinking about the passage, one will discover more and more observations, causing the message to come alive especially as we see how the individual facts in the verse or short paragraph connect to our lives. The answers to these observation questions are found in the text. We all should be able to answer these with a little exploration! It does help to use different versions and remember some versions are more literal than others, that is, they are more accurately portraying the original words.

Interpretation: What does it mean?

Forming interpretation questions are fun but answering them may not be so easy! An example of an interpretation question might be, "Pick out one thing that needs to be explained."

The most important task is actually making the questions, even though one might think the answers are all important. Let me explain as some people might be wondering what I mean.

Obtaining an answer to a difficult question is great, but we cannot always find one. The first part and perhaps the most important part of finding answers is to make good questions. Most the time we find ourselves not really wanting to know. We are not asking questions of what this or that means. We might read, for example, the term 'eternal life' but never ask what it really means. Only

when we start asking what things mean, will we start on the path of learning.

Forming interpretation questions are an important part of the learning process. This does not mean, however, that answers come easy. Some do, some don't. Once we are prayerfully searching, however, the Lord in His time begins to bring answers. The danger is that a person gets frustrated over being unable to find satisfying answers. One must learn to enjoy the learning process. Answers are good, but the process is part of the journey of knowing the Lord more.

After many years, I (Paul) am still seeking answers to some questions. Most questions can be found by checking a Bible dictionary or checking the context of the passage itself or even by doing a simple word study. But even if an answer does not pop up, just prayerfully seek God for wisdom and understanding. He is our teacher and this learning posture brings us deeper into a good disciple-mentor relationship with our Lord.

Application: What does it mean to me?

The influence of a person's meditation chiefly comes from one's application by discovering what a certain Bible passage means to one's life. For example, to form an application question one might ask, "What is one implication for my life from this passage?"

The application category is surprisingly large, including the refining of one's thoughts, theology, decisions, morals, level of commitment, etc. This induces us to

make changes on how we might think, where we might go or what we might do.

When we think about the scriptures, we should be welcoming the changes that will come to our lives. This is God meeting us through His Word. We hear Him and therefore it calls for personal obedience in various aspects of our lives. Repentance is one common response to His Word, always pointing us to a correction of one sort or another.

Most quiet times, sermons, lessons seem lifeless mainly because God's Word does not come alive in the sphere of application, sometimes due to our lack of change. The inspiration is primarily derived from a pertinent application combined with the felt need to change by being in God's presence.

Observation / Interpretation / Application

- Observation questions

- Interpretation questions

- ➔ Application questions

Each study will consist of all three kinds of questions typically used with equal emphasis. There are at least two ways to help train yourself in forming inductive Bible study questions.

(1) The best way!

For each paragraph of scripture, make your observation, interpretation, and application questions before you look at the ones provided and only then compare them. This will provide great insight and bring about the biggest learning experience.

(2) A very good way!

You can also just answer the questions as provided. Use it as a personal quiet time, seeking God to teach and enrich your life. Afterward, spend about ten minutes to observe the different questions along with the text. Note how we approach each lesson. It would be great if you attempted to form your own questions at some point and note where you did well or ran into difficulties.

Note: When teaching this series, some questions were given in a large group. We discussed it together. Sometimes we broke into small groups and each group discussed the topic. The groups would then share their conclusion, perhaps with just one or two from different groups sharing with the whole class. Or, perhaps, the teacher would voice an answer or observation. In the end, the teacher summarizes and continues on.

Our Summary

Each lesson should close with a summary. We have learned and heard many things, but it is very helpful to focus on at least one specific lesson. The temptation is to go away as if we never heard anything. Wisdom dictates

that we take at least one thing that we learned and use it to make some specific change. “For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror” (James 1:23).

Conclusion

We hope that you enjoy your studies. Please observe what kind of question each question is. Each kind of question is not only color-coded but also variously indented.

Manuscript Study

Dividing a Bible book into paragraphs

The first part of any thorough study of a Bible book is to be well acquainted with it. This is done by reading it over and over until one gains a good grasp of its contents and purpose.

One way people have done this is by eliminating all the Bible verses, paragraphs and other separation marks or comments. The reason for this is to read it more as it originally was written.

The Book of Titus and, in fact, the entire New Testament were written in Koine Greek. The early church consisted of all capitals and no space between words. There were no Bible verses or chapters. They were added later on. So as much as possible, we strip the Bible text of extra markings so that we can form our own judgment on where there might be a change in subject (indicating a new paragraph).

Titus 1:1-3:15 (NASB) Study #1: Manuscript study

[illegible]

Though this manuscript study is important, it is not critical. It only helps us better be less biased by our translated versions.

The point of a manuscript study is to read the Bible book (or passage) and then write down what you think are the best divisions for the book. Remember the verse and chapter numbers were not part of the original Bible text. They were added later. So feel free to form your own paragraphs. The numbers on the left are placed so that there is a way to refer to which line is being spoken of (see the right). Download the NASB here.¹

We have highlighted the process below.

- Read the text carefully once, twice, three times (as many times as you can). When a book is longer, spend several days reading it. Spot common themes and repetitive words.
- Form your own paragraphs in a way which you are comfortable reading.
- Write a short title for each paragraph (use the line numbers provided on the left). This is easiest done by carefully noting the change of topics or keywords like 'for', 'therefore', 'when', etc.

¹ pdf: bit.ly/bff-TitManuPdf docx: bit.ly/bff-titmanudocx

- Each paragraph will form the unit for your individual studies. We formed seven studies from the Book of Titus.

After the manuscript study is completed, one can move to the next two steps.

- Observation, interpretation, and application questions will be made for each unit or section so to thoroughly discuss the contents and apply the truths to our lives.
- After each section's IBS study questions, titles are remade and an outline for the whole book can be formed. A purpose for the whole book can then be refined. The extent of this depends on your own teaching gifts.

Titus Manuscript Study

1 "Paul, a bond-servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ,
for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the
3 truth which is according to godliness, in the hope of eternal life,
which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago, but at the
5 proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation
with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of
7 God our Savior; to Titus, my true child in a common faith:
Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our
9 Savior. For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in
order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I
11 directed you, namely, if any man be above reproach, the
husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused
13 of dissipation or rebellion. For the overseer must be above
reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-
15 tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of
sordid gain, but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just,
17 devout, self-controlled, holding fast the faithful word which is in
accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to
19 exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.
For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and
21 deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, who must be
silenced because they are upsetting whole families, teaching
23 things they should not teach, for the sake of sordid gain. One
of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are
25 always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." This testimony is true.
For this cause reprove them severely that they may be sound
27 in the faith, not paying attention to Jewish myths and
commandments of men who turn away from the truth. To the
29 pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and
unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their
31 conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but by their
deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient, and
33 worthless for any good deed. But as for you, speak the things
which are fitting for sound doctrine. Older men are to be
35 temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in
perseverance. Older women likewise are to be reverent in their
37 behavior, not malicious gossips, nor enslaved to much wine,
teaching what is good, that they may encourage the young
39 women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be
sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their
41 own husbands, that the word of God may not be dishonored.
Likewise urge the young men to be sensible; in all things show
43 yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in

45 doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach,
in order that the opponent may be put to shame, having
47 nothing bad to say about us. Urge bondslaves to be subject to
their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not
49 argumentative, not pilfering, but showing all good faith that
they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every
51 respect. For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation
to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly
53 desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the
present age, looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of
55 the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus; who gave
Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless
57 deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession,
zealous for good deeds. These things speak and exhort and
59 reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you. Remind
them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to
61 be ready for every good deed, to malign no one, to be
uncontentious, gentle, showing every consideration for all
63 men. For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient,
deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending
65 our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. But
when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind
67 appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we
have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the
69 washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,
whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our
71 Savior, that being justified by His grace we might be made
heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy
73 statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak
confidently, so that those who have believed God may be
75 careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and
profitable for men. But shun foolish controversies and
77 genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law; for they
are unprofitable and worthless. Reject a factious man after a
79 first and second warning, knowing that such a man is
perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned. When I send
81 Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me
at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.
83 Diligently help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way so
that nothing is lacking for them. And let our people also learn
85 to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, that they
may not be unfruitful. All who are with me greet you. Greet
87 those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.” (NASB)

Titus 1:1-4

Inductive Bible Study Questions

¹ Paul, a bond-servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness, ² in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago, ³ but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of God our Savior; ⁴ to Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Teaching

- God appointed Paul the apostle to write Titus to build up the chosen people of God.

Approach

- When you have a minute to introduce yourself, how do you do it?

Observation / Interpretation / Application

- ◉ Who are the characters introduced in this passage?

1. Paul

- How would you define and differentiate a slave from an apostle?
 - ➔ Should you see yourself as a slave of Jesus Christ? Why or why not?
 - ➔ What implications should being a slave of Christ have for your own life? Cite one or two examples.

2. Titus

- In what ways is Titus described?

- Why is Titus described as a true child in the faith?

- What do you think of the significance that Paul refers to himself as a slave while calling Titus a child?

- ➔ Should you see yourself as a child of God? Why or why not?

- ➔ What implications should that have for your own life? Cite one or two examples.

3. God

- ◉ How many times is the term 'God' used in these verses?
- ◉ What are the things said to be given to God's people in verse 4?
- Why might Paul often start his letters with these terms grace and peace?
- ➔ Share how grace or peace has affected your life.

4. Jesus Christ

- ◉ How is Jesus Christ described in these verses?
- Why might Jesus and God both be described as our Savior?
- ➔ What are the implications of this for our own lives?

5. Chosen of God

- Who are the chosen of God?

- For what reason(s) did Paul write to the chosen of God?
- What did God promise long ago and how did He reveal it?
- What might 'His word' refer to? What is significant about it?
- Do you know that you have eternal life?
If so what are some indications of that?

Summary

- We can learn much about Paul, Titus, God, Christ Jesus, and God's people through this passage. Each plays an important part in God's eternal redemptive plan by which He makes us His own forever.

Titus 1:1-4

Inductive Bible Study - Student Handout

Approach

When you only have a minute to introduce yourself, how do you do it?

Titus 1:1-4

¹Paul, a bond-servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness, ²in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago, ³but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of God our Savior; ⁴to Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Teaching: God appointed Paul the apostle to write to Titus to build up the chosen people of God.

Who are the characters or persons referred to in Titus 1:1?

•

•

•

Summary

- We can learn much about Paul, Titus, God, Christ Jesus, and God's people through this passage. Each plays an important part in God's eternal redemptive plan by which He makes us His own forever.

Titus 1:5-9

Inductive Bible Study Questions

⁵ “For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, ⁶ namely, if any man be above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. ⁷ For the overseer must be above reproach as God’s steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, ⁸ but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, ⁹ holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.”

Teaching

- Paul helps Titus establish good leaders for the church in Crete and helps us focus on what kind of leaders we need in our churches today.

Approach

- What kind of leaders in the church do you like to work under?

Observation / Interpretation / Application

1. Why is Titus there?

- Why was Titus left in Crete (1:5)?
 - What might “set in order what remains’ refer to (1:5)?
- What kind of leaders are mentioned in this passage (1:5-9)?
 - What are the differences and similarities between these terms?

2. Qualities

- What are the qualifications of leadership that Paul wanted Titus to focus on?
What are the positive traits mentioned?

- What does 'having children who believe' mean?
- What areas do you think 'self-control' might refer to?
- What does 'holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching' mean?
- What might 'sound doctrine' refer to?
 - ➔ Even if you do not see yourself as a leader, why should these qualities be important to you?
- What are the negative traits mentioned?
 - What does 'dissipation' mean?
 - Are there any other terms that we need to define?
 - What is self-willed? How would you recognize a person being self-willed?
 - ➔ Which leaders in the scriptures had such problems and what was the outcome?

- ➡ Go through the negative traits above and rate them, starting with the one you have the least trouble with and ending with the one you have the most trouble with.

Summary

- ❖ Understand what are the positive and negative traits of a Christian leader so that you can know what God expects from you and how you can grow as a believer.

- ❖ Extra: Summarize the process this study used and the main topics discussed focusing on application.

Titus 1:5-9

Inductive Bible Study - Student Handout

Approach

What kind of leaders in the church do you like to work under?

Titus 1:5-9

⁵ “For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, ⁶ namely, if any man be above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. ⁷ For the overseer must be above reproach as God’s steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, ⁸ but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, ^{9*} holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.”

Teaching: Paul helps Titus establish good leaders for the church in Crete and helps us focus on what kind of leaders we need in our churches today.

A List

A list is considered an observation question. There are passages that use the list format. From the list come interpretation questions and application answers.

Please look carefully at Titus 1:5:

“For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you,”

Please write down 3 observations you have made from v. 5. Remember observations are facts based on the Scripture passage.

(1)

(2)

(3)

List the noted qualities of a good leader:

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 7. |
| 2. | 8. |
| 3. | 9. |
| 4. | 10. |
| 5. | 11. |
| 6. | |

List the noted qualities of a bad leader.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

Summary

Whether you consider yourself to be a leader or not, each one of you will influence someone's life. Please rank yourself honestly on a scale of 1 -7 with 1 being what you struggle the most with, all the way to 7 using the LIST above. Then, I would like you to pray each day to overcome 1 of those.

Titus 1:10-16

Inductive Bible Study Questions

¹⁰ *For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision ¹¹ who must be silenced because they are upsetting whole families, teaching things they should not teach, for the sake of sordid gain. ¹² One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."*
¹³ *This testimony is true. For this cause reprove them severely that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴ not paying attention to Jewish myths and commandments of men who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵ To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. ¹⁶ They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient, and worthless for any good deed.*

Teaching summary

- Paul instructs Titus regarding problems in the churches in Crete which in turn help us know how to handle crises that occur in our churches today.

Approach question

- What do you think the biggest danger our church or the church at large is facing right now?

Observation / Interpretation / Application

1. The Danger for Churches

- List the dangers that Paul asks Titus to be aware of in the churches that he is leading?
- Why is Paul singling out the circumcision group from the rebellious men, empty talkers, and deceivers?
- ➔ Out of the dangers listed in the passage, what is the danger that threatens you the most?

- What is the cause and effect relationship you see in verses 10-11?
- What does the prophet say about his culture (Cretan) in verse 12?
- Who do you think 'a prophet of their own' refers to in verse 12?
 - ➔ How has your culture negatively influenced you (1:12)?

2. The Action Plan

- What action plan does Paul give Titus to get rid of the dangers that the Cretan churches are facing?

- What does rebuke mean?

→ How comfortable are you to rebuke someone when they are doing something wrong? Why or why not?

- What does Paul hope Titus to accomplish through the rebuke (13-14)?

- What might Jewish myths refer to?

- When you hear this phrase 'sound in the faith', what do you think of?

- What have you seen in your lifetime that validates verse 15?

- What is the danger claiming to know God but not living it out (1:16).

→ What does it mean to proclaim the truth and live the truth in your life?

Summary

- Dangers threatened the church back then and often are related to dangers that the church faces today. We need to be willing to stand up for the truth even though it might be tough.

Titus 1:10-16

Inductive Bible Study - Student Handout

Approach

What do you think the biggest danger our church or the church at large is facing right now?

Titus 1:10-16

¹⁰ “For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision ¹¹ who must be silenced because they are upsetting whole families, teaching things they should not teach, for the sake of sordid gain. ¹² One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.”

¹³ “This testimony is true. For this cause reprove them severely that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴ not paying attention to Jewish myths and commandments of men who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵ To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. ¹⁶ They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient, and worthless for any good deed.”

Teaching: Paul instructs Titus regarding problems in the churches in Crete which in turn help us know how to handle crises that occur in our churches today.

1. The Danger for Churches (Titus 1:10-12)

- List the dangers that Paul asks Titus to be aware of in the churches that he is leading?

2. The Action Plan (Titus 1:13-16)

- What action plan does Paul give Titus to get rid of the dangers that the Cretan churches are facing

Summary

- ❖ Dangers threatened the church back then and often are related to dangers that the church faces today. We need to be willing to stand up for the truth even though it might be tough.

Titus 2:1-10

Inductive Bible Study Questions

¹ *“But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine. ² Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance. ³ Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, ⁴ so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored. ⁶ Likewise urge the young men to be sensible; ⁷ in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, ⁸ sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us. ⁹ Urge bondslaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good faith so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.”*

Teaching Summary

- Each of us should take what we have and share it (discipling is sharing the knowledge of truth). Everyone needs to be an active participant, growing and getting ready to train.

Approach Question

- Name two people that have spiritually poured themselves into your life. What are a few things you have learned from them?

Observation / Interpretation / Application

1. Paul's instruction to Titus (Titus 2:1)

- What is Paul instructing Titus to do (2:1)
- What is sound doctrine? Name 6 teachings that you would call sound doctrine.

2. How is Titus to carry out that instruction (Titus 2:2-10)

- What are the characteristics that Paul emphasizes for older men (2:2)?

- What is the difference between temperate and self-controlled (2)?

- What are the characteristics that he emphasizes for older women (2:3-4a)?

- What does Paul portray as the goal of living a godly life as an older woman?

- Have you ever had the opportunity to train up a new believer? Why or why not? Have you ever considered it?

- What character flaws would need to be improved in your own life to arrive at the place where you are able to train up a new believer?

- Do you think it is the responsibility of all believers to train other believers?

● What are the characteristics that he emphasizes for younger women (2:4b-5)?

- How do you think the word of God is dishonored when a woman is not subject to her husband?

- Why are young women encouraged to love their husbands and their children?

→ From these descriptions how can a young woman today guard her love for her family?

● What are the characteristics that he emphasizes for younger men (2:6-8)?

- What kind of speech do we need so that people have nothing bad to say about us?

- How do you become “pure in doctrine”?

- Why is pure doctrine important for the development of a man?

- What are the characteristics that he emphasizes for bondslaves (2:9-10)? (Note: bondslaves is the same original Greek word as slave in 1:1)
- ➡ How can we apply this in the work world, dealing with manager relationships or for those in authority over us?

Summary

- We are responsible to train up those who are spiritually younger than us and live so that our families might be blessed, God is honored, and the gospel gains a good reputation.

Titus 2:1-10

Inductive Bible Study - Student Handout

Approach question

Name two people that have spiritually poured themselves into your life? What are a few things you have learned from them?

Titus 2:1-10

¹ “But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine. ² Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance. ³ Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, ⁴ so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored. ⁶ Likewise urge the young men to be sensible; ⁷ in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, ⁸ sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us. ⁹ Urge bondslaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good faith so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.”

Teaching: Each of us should take what we have and share it (discipling is sharing the knowledge of truth). Everyone needs to be an active participant, growing and getting ready to train.

1) Paul's instruction to Titus (Titus 2:1)

- What is Paul instructing Titus to do (2:1)

2) How is Titus to carry out that instruction (Titus 2:2-10)

- What are the characteristics that he emphasizes for older men (2:2)?
- For older women (2-4a)?
- For younger women (4b-5)?
- For younger men (6-8)?

Summary

- ❖ We are responsible to train up those who are spiritually younger than us and live so that our families might be blessed, God is honored, and the gospel gains a good reputation.

Titus 2:11-15

Inductive Bible Study Questions

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus; 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds. 15 These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you. (NASB)

Teaching Summary

- Paul provides for Titus and the church in Crete a good handle on what God was doing through the life, death, and reigning Lord Jesus Christ.

Approach Question

- What changes has God brought to the world through the person and work of Jesus Christ?

Observation / Interpretation / Application

1. What is the Gospel (Titus 2:11)?

- What has appeared in the world (2:11)? What impact did it have on mankind?
- What does 'the grace of God' mean or refer to (2:11)?
- Does 'bringing salvation to all men' mean that everyone is saved (2:11)? How do you know?
 - ➡ Has God brought salvation to you? When? How?

2. What changes does the Gospel bring (Titus 2:12-14a)?

- List the changes in 2:12-14a that happen to genuine believers as God's grace transforms them.
- What are 'worldly desires'? List at least five kinds.

- ➔What does it practically mean for you to live 'sensibly, righteously, and godly'? Write down two decisions that you made because of this godly pursuit.

- ➔Would you say that you are looking forward more to Christ's return or a comfortable earthly life? When were the last two times you reflected on Christ's return?

3. What is the purpose of the Gospel (Titus 2:14)?

- What does the phrase 'who gave Himself for us' mean?
- List the purposes for which God brought His grace into the world (2:14).
 - What is the difference between 'redeem from every lawless deed' and 'purify for Himself a people for His own possession'?
 - ➔ In what practical ways do you see yourself a person for God's possession? Do you think God wants more of your heart and life? How so?
- What are three synonyms for 'zealous'?
 - ➔ Would you say that you are 'zealous for good deeds'? What is one further thing you could do that would make you so?

4. What does Paul tell Titus to do with the Gospel (Titus 2:15)?

- Summarize what 'these things' refer to (2:15).
- What is Titus supposed to do with 'these things'?

- What does it mean to do these things 'with all authority'?
- ➔ How do you respond when people 'disregard' you or what you say when you share the Gospel? Is this the same or different from what Paul says here?

Summary

- Why is it that the church, the people with God's truth, the Gospel, at times are not changed as we read above? How can this be changed?

Titus 2:11-15

Inductive Bible Study: Student Handout

Approach Question

What changes has God brought into the world through the person and work of Jesus Christ?

Titus 2:11-15

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, ¹² instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, ¹³ looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus; ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds. ¹⁵ These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Teaching: Paul provides for Titus and the church in Crete a good handle on what God was doing through the life, death, and reigning Lord Jesus Christ.

(1) What is the Gospel (Titus 2:11)?

(2) What changes does the Gospel bring (Titus 2:12-14a)?

(3) What is the purpose of the Gospel (Titus 2:14)?

(4) What is Titus to do with the Gospel (Titus 2:15)

Summary

- Why is it that the church, the people with God's truth, the Gospel, at times are not changed as we read above?
How can this be changed?

Titus 3:1-8

Inductive Bible Study Questions

¹ Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, ² to malign no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing every consideration for all men. ³ For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, ⁵ He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men. (NASB)

Teaching Summary

- A person is radically changed when he or she believes in Jesus Christ who came, died, rose again and then had the Spirit of God implanted in each of their hearts to actively live out Christ-like lives.

Approach question

- Can a person be saved by being good? Why or why not?

Observation / Interpretation / Application

1. A Needed Reminder (Titus 3:1-2)

- Who is Paul telling Titus to remind? (Who is the 'them'?)
- What did Paul remind Titus to do regarding them in verses 3:1-2?
- What does 'to be contentious' mean or refer to (3:2)?
 - Which is most difficult for you to carry out and why (3:1-2)?

2. God's Work in the Believers' Lives (Titus 3:3-7)

- Who does the 'we' describe (3:3)? Why do you think so?
- How did Paul describe "our" past lives (3:3)?
 - Does this mean that all believers are free from malice, envy, enslavement to lusts, etc.?
 - What might we say to a believer who believes he cannot escape the impact of his ongoing sinful nature? (Maybe he feels like a victim of his addiction.)
- What historical event was able to generate such a change in their lives (3:4)?
- How does Paul describe the means by which a person is saved (3:5)?
 - We often hear the phrase 'Jesus saved me.' How would Titus 3:4-5 encourage us to more accurately phrase that?
 - Would you say that you have been saved? When? Describe that work.

- How does the 'washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit' describe the spiritual changes that happen to a new believer (3:5-6)?

➔What outward changes in your life testify to the hidden work of the Holy Spirit?

- What does 'justified by grace' mean (3:7)?

➔Share about someone who believes one is 'saved by works' rather than 'saved by grace'. Why is this point important clarifying?

- What is the result of being justified (3:7)?

- Why might Paul use these words 'eternal life' to describe the believers' inheritance (3:7)?

3. The Reliability of the Gospel (Titus 3:8)

- What does Paul tell Titus to do in 3:8?

- Why do you think Paul needs to state, "This is a trustworthy statement" (3:8)?

- Why does Paul state these things to Titus? What is his goal?

Summary of Titus 3:1-8

- Paul in Titus 3:1-8 teaches the glorious power of salvation through Christ in a believer's life not just at the time of salvation but while on earth and on into eternity.

Titus 3:1-8

Inductive Bible Study - Student Handout

Approach Question

Can a person be saved by being good? Why or why not?

Titus 3:1-8 (NASB)

¹ “Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, ² to malign no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing every consideration for all men. ³ For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, ⁵ He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men” (Titus 3:1-8).

Teaching: A person is radically changed when he or she believes in Jesus Christ who came, died, rose again and

then had the Spirit of God implanted in each of their hearts to actively live out Christ-like lives.

(1) A Needed Reminder (Titus 3:1-2)

- Who is Paul telling Titus to remind? (Who is the 'them'?)

- In Titus 1 Paul told Titus how to help

_____.

- In Titus 2 & 3 Paul told Titus how to help

_____.

(2) God's Work in the Believers' Lives (Titus 3:3-7)

(3) The Reliability of the Gospel (3:8)

Summary

- ❖ Paul in Titus 3:1-8 teaches the glorious power of salvation through Christ in a believer's life not just at the time of salvation but while on earth and on into eternity.

Titus 3:9-15

Inductive Bible Study Questions

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 him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. ¹¹ You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned. ¹² As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there. ¹³ Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need. ¹⁴ Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives. ¹⁵ Everyone with me sends you greetings. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all” (NASB).

Teaching Summary

- Clarify how Titus was to handle those leaders who resisted following his instructions.

Approach Question

- What makes a religious person divisive and how have you dealt with an experience like that?

Observation / Interpretation / Application

1. Avoiding Controversies (Titus 3:9-11)

- What cause-effect relationship do we see in verse 9?
 - Name the four problems Paul identified and distinguish how each differs from the other (3:9).
 - Which one do you struggle with most and why?
 - Why do you think Paul tells Titus that foolish controversies, genealogies, arguments, and quarrels about the law are unprofitable and useless (3:9)?
- How does Paul state a divisive person to be handled in the church (3:10)?
 - What does it mean not to have anything to do with a divisive person (3:10)?

➡How do you feel about 'having nothing to do with' a divisive person in your life? Why or why not?

➡Can a divisive person be ignored and shown the love of Christ at the same time? Why or why not?

●How is a divisive person described in verse 11?

• Why does Paul state that these individuals are self-condemned?

2. Paul's Final Words (Titus 3:12-15)

● List the different topics Paul addressed in these last verses (3:12-15).

● What is Paul requesting them to do in verse 12?

• What might this show of his work/personal relationship with Titus?

● What does Paul tell Titus that Christians should do? (3:14)

● What reason does he give for this instruction? (3:14)

- List at least four synonyms for the word 'devote' found in 3:14.
- How does verse 13 exemplify the general instruction in verse 14?
 - ➔What is a specific good thing you can do this week? Set a time to do it.
- From looking at the stern advice in verses 9-10, one might think Paul was a strong leader. How should we modify our conclusions about Paul from verse 15?

- **Summary of Titus 3:9-15**

- In the closing of this letter, Paul gave some final advice. He provided some basic instructions on how to handle those leaders that Titus had to correct (earlier stated in Titus 1:5-16) as well as address some personal issues. The apostle refocused God's people in Crete on performing good deeds which serves as a major theme throughout this letter.

Titus 3:9-15

Inductive Bible Study — Student Handout

Approach Question

What makes a religious person divisive and how have you dealt with an experience like that?

Titus 3:9-15 (NASB)

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 him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. ¹¹ You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned. ¹² As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there. ¹³ Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need. ¹⁴ Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives. ¹⁵ Everyone with me sends you greetings. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all” (NASB).

Teaching: Clarify how Titus was to handle those leaders who resisted following his instructions.

(1) Avoiding Controversies (3:9-11)

- What cause-effect relationship do we see in verse 9?
- How would you distinguish one from another (3:9)?

(2) Paul's final words (3:12-15)

- List the different topics Paul addressed in these last verses (3:12-15).

Summary

- ❖ In the closing of this letter, Paul gave some final advice. He provided some basic instructions on how to handle those leaders that Titus had to correct (earlier stated in Titus 1:5-16) as well as address some personal issues. The apostle refocused God's people in Crete on performing good deeds which serves as a major theme throughout this letter.

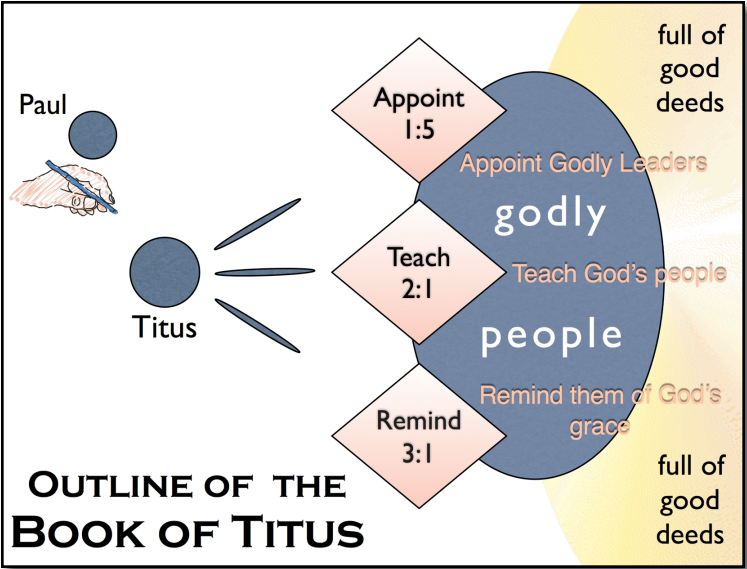
Appendix 1: Titus Book Outline Diagram

Shaped into God's Community

– An Outline Diagram of the Book of Titus –

Three means God develops His people:

- A. Appoint Transformed Leaders (1:1-16)
- B. Cultivate Sanctified People (2:1-15)
- C. Teach Vibrant Gospel Truth (3:1-15)



Appendix 2: Your Notes

Appendix 3: Author's Information

Rev. Paul J. Bucknell teaches Christian leadership seminars around the world and has authored more than twenty-five books on topics including Christian life, discipleship, godly living, biblical studies, call to ministry, marriage, parenting, anxiety, the Holy Spirit, Knowing God, and the church. His blend of knowledge from different fields along with his passion for training God's people provide many new insights into each of his books. Paul and his wife, Linda, live in the USA and have eight children and five grandchildren. He is the founder and president of *Biblical Foundations for Freedom*, a web-based ministry that releases God's powerful, life-changing truths worldwide.

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