Titus

Week 5:

How to Live an Impossible Life?

Questions

1. Pastor John mentions 5 specific ways you can identify a growing Christian:
    - Loves other believers (John 13:35)
    - Increases in Bible knowledge and obedience (John 8:31-32)
    - Becomes more like the Word, less like the world in thinking (Romans 12:2)
    - Gathers weekly for worship (Hebrews 10:24-25)
    - Chases Jesus with others (2 Timothy 2:22)

    In what area/way listed above do you need to be more intentional in your growth as a Christian?
2. In Titus 2:3 Paul encourages older men to demonstrate self-control, sound doctrine, love, and endurance. Why do these specific qualities become increasingly important as you grow in your faith?
3. Read Titus 2:4-5. Paul calls older women to live in a way that honors God and avoid harmful speech. Why is the way you speak about others such an important reflection of your faith? Where in your life do you need to reflect Jesus's example of how you speak to or about others?
4. What attitude, habit, or desire is God asking you to surrender so that your life more closely reflects Jesus? In what specific relationship do your words or attitudes need to change so that you can demonstrate more patience, grace, and love?
5. Read Titus 2:11-14. Paul reminds us that God's grace brings salvation and teaches us to turn away from ungodliness and worldly desires. What does it look like to be an example of Jesus in your home, workplace, school, friendships, and community?

Scripture References

Colossians 1:27

27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this
mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Titus 2:2-10

2 Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in
love and in endurance.

3 Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or
addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. 4 Then they can urge the younger women to
love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind,
and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

6 Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled. 7 In everything set them an example

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by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness [8] and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

[9] Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, [10] and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.

Titus 2:11-15
[11] For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. [12] It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, [13] while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, [14] who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

[15] These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
[16] For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

1 John 3:2-3
[2] Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,[a] we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Takeaways

- What can you do when the Christian life feels totally impossible?
- The impossible life is the best life, and it's possible through Christ.
- A growing Christian's life will give hope to a hopeless world.
- A growing Christian's life will give hope to a hopeless world by modeling 3 things.
    - 1. different beliefs (Titus 2:1)
    - 2. different behavior from a new heart (Titus 2:2-12)
    - 3. different Hope (Titus 2:13)
- How can you know if you're growing as a Christian?
- A Growing Christian...

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    - Loving other believers (John 13:35)
    - Increasing in bible knowledge and obedience (John 8:31-32)
    - Becoming moe like the Word, less like the world in thinking (Romans 12:2)
    - Gathers weekly for worship (Hebrews 10:24-25)
    - Chases Jesus with others (2 Timothy 2:22)
- The impossible life is the best life, and it's possible through Christ.
- We've been placed in a broken and evil world to "make the teaching about God our Savior attractive."
- Less defined by self and sin, more defined by Christ and self-control.
    - Why?
    - So that a world of lost sheep can find the Good Shepherd through us.
- To live the impossible life in Christ, you need 5 things:
    - 1. God's power through Jesus (Titus 2:11-12)
    - 2. To claim your new identity (Titus 2:14-15)
    - 3. To be a learning student of Jesus' way (Titus 2:7 & Romans 12:2)
    - 4. To have a higher Hope (Titus 2:13)
    - 5. To be part of the tribe, team, movement (Titus 2:14 "us")