

Inspired

Titus & 1 Timothy

Week 31

March 31, 2014

Stay the Course

Daily Verses

Sunday:	Titus 1
Monday:	Titus 2
Tuesday:	Titus 3
Wednesday:	1 Timothy 1, 2
Thursday:	1 Timothy 3, 4
Friday:	1 Timothy 5, 6
Saturday:	Catch Up/Free Day

Key Verse:

I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these instructions to you in case I am delayed, to let you know how people ought to conduct themselves in the household of God, because it is the church of the living God, the support and bulwark of the truth.
1 Timothy 3:14-15

get daily scripture texts!

text @sherwoodo to 812-671-0028

Daily Devotions

Go to socc.org/sherwood-oaks-blog for daily devotions

Pointing to Jesus

- Jesus warned about false teacher. Paul helps Timothy and Titus stand against those who pervert the Gospel. (Matt. 7:15, 18:6)
- Care for widows and their protection from abuse are dear to God's heart. (Deut 16:11, Ps 68:5) Jesus was outraged against those who "devour widow's houses." (Luke 20:47) Implementing the Gospel in churches requires special treatment for at risk members. (1 Timothy 5:3-16) In Acts, the church deacons were assigned as special caregivers to widows. (Acts 6:1-6)
- Jesus demanded exemplary conduct from His followers. Matt 5:13-16. Paul encouraged his audience to silence skeptical critics through righteous behavior. 1 Timothy 4:12
- Faith and good works are partners in implementing the Gospel the life of the Christian community. Paul, the apostle of faith, lays out his doctrine of works in Titus. False teachers are unfit for good works. (Titus 1:16). Titus is to be an example of good works. (2:7) Jesus died to create people hungry for good works. (2:14). Christians are to be ready for every good work. (3:1) Believers must maintain good works. (3:8) "Pressing needs" are good works that make for good fruit in the kingdom. (3:15)
- Paul outlines for Timothy at Ephesus and for Titus in Crete, the characteristics of Godly leaders for the church. (1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17-20, Titus 1:5-9)

Questions for Reflection & Conversation

- What is the relationship between faith and works in Christian life?
- How do you decide between culture and God's eternal principles? e.g. "lifting hands in prayer, braided hair, jewelry, etc.?"
- Paul opens himself to criticism for his rejection of circumcision and then having Timothy circumcised. Hypocrisy or expediency, how do you decide such things?
- What things do you find easy to implement in your Christian life and what things are difficult? Why do you think that is?
- What are some important considerations for the church as it experiences leadership transitions?

Still have questions you would like answered? Go to socc.org/ask-bible-guy or text 812-329-2315

Family Activity

Do you have a favorite toy? Maybe your bicycle, a doll, or a video game is your favorite. How would you feel if your toy was broken or lost? It is okay to feel sad or disappointed if a toy gets broken or lost. But it is also important to remember that a toy is just a “thing,” and our things belong to God. 1 Timothy 6:7 reminds us that our things should not be more important to us than how we use them to honor Him: “For we brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it.”

One way to use the “things” you have to honor God is to share them with others. Maybe you can pick a few toys that you don’t use anymore, or a pair of shoes that you can’t fit into anymore and donate them to other kids who need them. God would love for us to point others to Him by sharing our “things.” After all, we won’t have any of our “things” in heaven, but some of the people with whom we share will see Jesus and will be there. So, spend your time serving God and doing things that count for eternity.

Staying Current with the Series

Missed a part of the Inspired series? You can pick up missed take-home sheets at the Welcome Center or download them at socc.org/inspired/deeper.