

TITUS

Household Readings

As far as we can guess, Paul—the great missionary—has been released from jail in Rome (this is at the end of Acts). He continues his work of telling people about Jesus. He visits Crete, and leaves one of his close friends (maybe a trainee) Titus behind. Titus has a big job—to help set up the new gatherings ('churches') of God's people. Paul writes to him with key advice—about the theological heart, and the practical consequences!

These shorts devotions will help you sit with your household each day (well, five days in the week!), and prepare your hearts and minds by looking at the passages we will be thinking through each Sunday. They should take about 10 minutes together:

- Begin each time with a short prayer, asking God to help you understand the Bible.
- Do the 'tasks/questions'.
- Finish by praying a short 'thank-you' prayer to God.

Try to set aside the same time each day to spend this time together, making this a household habit!

It won't be easy but it will be greatly rewarding!

Week 1 (starting 4 October)
Titus 1:1-4

Day 1

- Read Titus 1:1-4.
- Who is the author?
- Who is the recipient?
- What are we told about them?

Day 2

- Read Acts 9:1-20.
- How did Saul/Paul meet God?
- What job did God give Saul/Paul?

Day 3

- Read Titus 1:1-4.
- Remembering Acts 9, how does Paul describe his job in Titus 1:1-4?

Day 4

- Read Titus 1:1-4.
- Who oversees, organizes, plans, provides in Paul's job?

Day 5

- Read Titus 1:1-4.
- Write down everything that we learn about God and Jesus in this introduction...

Week 2 (starting 11 October)
Titus 1:5-9

Day 1

- Read Titus 1:5-9.
- Why did Paul leave Titus in Crete?
- Grab a world map/globe, and find Crete. Maybe 'google' Crete and learn a little about it,

Day 2

- Read Titus 1:5-9.
- Look at verses 6-7... what type of person is to be appointed as 'elder'?
- Why does Paul say this is important?

Day 3

- Read Titus 1:5-9.
- Look at verses 7-8... list the other attributes that an elder should have.

Day 4

- Read Titus 1:5-9.
- What is the final attribute for an elder?
- Why is this so important?

Day 5

- Read Titus 1:5-9.
- Draw a picture of the ideal elder, from what Paul has written...

Week 3 (starting 18 October)
Titus 1:10-16

Day 1

- Read Titus 1:10-16.
- What is the problem in Crete?
- Discuss what 'from Judaism' means...

Day 2

- Read Titus 1:10-16.
- What does Titus need to do? (look at verse 11)
- Why is this so important? (look at verse 11)

Day 3

- Read Titus 1:10-16.
- What does Paul say about 'Cretans'?
- And what does it mean, in terms of particular action by Titus?

Day 4

- Read Titus 1:10-16.
- What do these people say about themselves? (look at verse 16)
- What reveals their true nature?

Day 5

- Read Titus 1:10-16.
- What do you think will help us at Narrabri Anglican Church to deal with the type of 'rebellious people, idle talkers and de-ceivers'?

Week 8 (starting 22 November)
Titus 3:12-15

Day 1

- Read Titus 3:12-15.
- What names are mentioned?
- What is Titus to do with these people?

Day 2

- Read Titus 3:12-15.
- What must God's people learn to do?
- For whom, and why?

Day 3

- Read Titus 3:12-15.
- How does the letter finish?

Day 4

- Read Titus 2:11-14.
- What changes the life of Christians?
- What change does it bring?

Day 5

- Read Titus 3:4-8.
- What changes the life of Christians?
- What does it lead to?

Week 7 (starting 15 November)
Titus 3:1-11

Day 1

- Read Titus 3:1-11.
- Write down everything Titus is to 'remind them to be'...
- Think of one 'good work' you can be ready for today!

Day 2

- Read Titus 3:3-7.
- What were God's people like?
- What changed them?

Day 3

- Read Titus 3:4-7.
- How is Jesus described?
- What did he bring God's people?

Day 4

- Read Titus 3:8-11.
- What are those 'who have believed God' to devote themselves to?
- Why?

Day 5

- Read Titus 3:9-11.
- What are God's people to avoid?
- Why?

Week 4 (starting 25 October)
Reformation Sunday: Martin Luther

Day 1

- On your computer search for 'Christian History: Issue 34: Martin Luther'. And print it off...

Day 2

- Reading from that document... where did Luther live?
- Find this place on a map.

Day 3

- Reading from that document... How did Luther become a Christian?
- What was important for Luther becoming a Christian?

Day 4

- Reading from that document... How did Luther's life change when he became a Christian?

Day 5

- One of Luther's favourite passages was Romans 3:21-26... Read it.
- How does any person have their sins forgiven?
- Who forgives any person's sin?

Week 5 (starting 1 November)
Titus 2:1-10

Day 1

- Read Titus 2:1-10.
- What does Paul tell Titus to do?
- What, or who, do you think is at the heart of the 'sound teaching'?

Day 2

- Read Titus 2:1-10.
- What is to be taught to older men and older women?

Day 3

- Read Titus 2:1-10.
- What is taught to younger women (and how is this connected to the older women)? Why?
- What is taught to younger men (and how is this connected to Titus)? Why?

Day 4

- Read Titus 2:1-10.
- What is taught to slaves? Why?

Day 5

- Read Titus 2:1-10.
- What community do you think emerges from this kind of 'sound teaching'?
- What is Paul's concern with this 'sound teaching'?

Week 6 (starting 8 November)
Titus 2:11-15

Day 1

- Read Titus 2:11-15.
- What has appeared?
- What does it bring?
- Talk to each other about what 'grace' is... (look at Ephesians 2:8-10)

Day 2

- Read Titus 2:11-15.
- What does the 'grace' that has appeared do? (look at verse 12)

Day 3

- Read Titus 2:11-15.
- When is this all happening? (look at verse 13)
- Who is this all about?

Day 4

- Read Titus 2:11-15.
- What do we learn about Jesus? (look at verse 14)
- Is Jesus 'the grace of God'? Why/why not?

Day 5

- Read Titus 2:11-15.
- What does verse 15 command?
- How similar is this to verse 1?
- Looking back, what is the 'sound doctrine'?