

TITUS 3:1-8

A. Introduction

1. Titus is one of three letters that the apostle Paul wrote, known as the Pastoral Epistles.

These are letters addressed to individuals who were church leaders, one of whom was Titus.

2. Why Titus?

Titus is a great book for us to study together because it gives us a model for how to lead a local church that is healthy in terms of what it believes and how it behaves.

In Titus 1:1-4 we saw that a healthy church is one where people become Christians, remain as Christians and grow as Christians as they hear the gospel preached.

In Titus 1:5-9 we saw that a healthy church needs qualified leaders – men as elders who are godly in their conduct, character, and convictions.

In Titus 1:10-16 we saw that a healthy church has elders who confront those who are deceiving church members and church members who are being deceived.

In Titus 2:1-10 we saw that a healthy church has elders who ensure that whole households are taught how to live as healthy Christians in all areas of life.

In Titus 2:11-15 we saw that a healthy church understands grace and is shaped by grace because it is taught both the doctrine and duty of grace by its leaders, because grace is the only reason why they can and will live godly lives.

3. Yet it is not enough for church members to be taught how to live as healthy Christians in all areas of life, they actually need to live godly lives.

A healthy church is one where people live godly lives.

B. We must be a community that shows God's kindness and love

1. What is a community that shows God's kindness and love like?

"Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no-one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility towards all men." (Titus 3:1-2)

It is one that is a blessing to those in authority.

It is one that is a blessing to those in their community.

2. Why must we be a community that shows God's kindness and love?

"These things are excellent and profitable for everyone." (Titus 3:8)

Believers are encouraged to show God's kindness and love.

Lost are drawn to God's kindness and love.

C. We can be a community that shows God's kindness and love

1. Remember what we were.

"At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another." (Titus 3:3)

Our beliefs were wrong – foolish and deceived.

Our behaviour was wrong – disobedient and depraved.

2. Remember what God has done for us.

“But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.” (Titus 3:4-5)

He has saved us through Jesus, not because of anything we have done.

He has saved us through Jesus, because of His mercy.

3. Remember how God has done this for us.

“He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour.” (Titus 3:5-6)

He has washed us by His Spirit – removing the filth of our sin.

He has renewed us by His Spirit – making us new creations.

4. Remember what we now are.

“So that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.” (Titus 3:7)

We are justified – we stand before God as if we have never sinned and as if we have always obeyed God perfectly.

We are heirs of eternal life – our future is secure.

5. Remember what this means.

“This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good.” (Titus 3:8)

We can be a community that shows God’s kindness and live.

We can be careful to do what is good.

D. Application

1. As elders, our eyes need to be open.

For how the members of the church are living – are they displaying the kindness and love of God our Saviour?

For opportunities as a church to bless the community – and display the kindness of love of God our Saviour.

2. As elders, our example needs to reinforce our teaching.

We should teach the church they need to live godly lives which display God’s kindness and love.

We should show the church how to live godly lives which display God’s kindness and love.