Wednesday Night Fellowship Discussion Guide 5/24/22

Titus 1:1-4

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, ² in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began ³ and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command 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.

Passage Summary

Paul begins his letter to Titus by referencing the grace of God in his life and in the lives of those in whom God works. God's grace in Paul's life has resulted in Paul identifying as both a servant and an apostle. While it might seem odd for Paul to identify as these two seemingly contradiction positions it is the grace of God in his life that allows him to embrace both positions and both mentalities without contradiction. Part of God's grace to Paul is that he is called to share similarly challenging truths to fellow followers of Jesus. The first such truth is the challenging union between God's election and individual faith.

Discussion Questions

Why does God call someone to leadership?

Paul, <u>a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ</u>, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness,

Read Matthew 20:20-28

- Jesus provides teaching in v.25-28 which reveals God's view of leadership why did Jesus share this teaching?
- Is it wrong to seek positions of leadership?

Who has God called you to lead?

What might be some examples of leading them well? What are some examples of leading them wrongly?

What can you do if you are being lead by someone who does not share this same philosophy of leadership?

Why does God elect?

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Romans 8:27-33

- Why does God call people?
- What are the purposes of God?

- How do we know that God will bring about good for believers?
- Why is it that a believe stands justified before God?

What are some wrong reasons that people believe that God elects people?

For those in Crete, what does Paul desire to see grow from those God has elected?

How does faith grow?

In what ways does the fact that God elects frighten you?

In what ways does the fact that God elects encourage or strengthen you?

Why is this teaching so controversial?

How does our God desire for us to respond to such controversy?