

## Wednesday Night Fellowship Discussion Guide

6/1/22

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,<sup>2</sup> in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began<sup>3</sup> 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;

<sup>4</sup>To 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. The second which takes our focus for tonight and also constitutes the major theme of the book is the challenging union between knowledge of the truth and godliness. The challenging union between knowing the truth and doing the truth.

### **Discussion Questions**

*(These questions are intended to generate discussion and promote application. Don't feel pressured to make it through all of them. The questions are made for the discussion leader, not the discussion leader for the questions.)*

#### **What relationship does truth have to godliness?**

Titus 1:1

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,**

We learned on Sunday that the Greek god Zeus was a major influencer for the small island of Crete. What influence did Zeus have upon the truth for the Cretans?

What cultural truths are present in our society that contradict the truth of God's Word?

If we were to identify the gods which we as Americans worship, what would be the "American gods"?

How do those cultural truths shape the lives of people that surround us?

## **How does the Bible shape our understanding of godliness?**

Titus 1:2-3

<sup>2</sup>**in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began** <sup>3</sup>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;

How is the God of the Bible different than Zeus, the god of the Cretans?

How do we know that He is different?

What are some other characteristics of our God revealed in the Bible?

During the message on Sunday, Pastor Steve shared with us Mark 4:35-41 as an example of Jesus demonstrating godliness. What are some other examples of Jesus demonstrating godliness which is contrary to our natural sin nature?

Titus 1:2-3

<sup>2</sup>in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began <sup>3</sup>**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;**

Why does Paul emphasize preaching?

How can we value preaching in our lives?

Is preaching the only manner in which we can get the Word of God into our lives? If not, what are some other ways?

What are some habits and rhythms of Bible input which you have found successful in your life?

What are some ways that we can encourage each other to prioritize the Word of God in our lives?

How could someone go about Bible intake in a manner which would be unhealthy?