

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 02 June 2019.....	1Timothy 1.....	Entrusted
2) 09 June.....	1Timothy 2.....	On Mission
3) 16 June.....	1Timothy 3.....	Setting the Example
4) 23 June.....	1Timothy 4.....	Staying the Course
5) 30 June.....	1Timothy 5.....	Being Responsible
6) 07 July.....	1Timothy 6.....	Lasting Investments
7) 14 July.....	2Timothy 1.....	Confidence
8) 21 July.....	2Timothy 2.....	Focused
9) 28 July.....	2Timothy 3.....	Diligent
10) 04 August.....	2Timothy 4.....	Enduring
11) 11 August.....	Titus 1.....	Living with Opposition
12) 18 August.....	Titus 2.....	Living with Integrity
13) 25 August.....	Titus 3.....	Living to Do

INTRODUCTION

- Paul highlights the need for believers to engage in “good deeds” to meet pressing needs of others and to generate fruit to our credit
- Though Paul listed a lot of do’s and don’ts throughout 1&2 Timothy and Titus, the real intent was to convey how to grow in Christ-like character and behavior.
- If we mimic the qualifications listed for Elders, Deacons, and of their wives we will not be ashamed when we stand before Christ

Passage	Comments
Titus 3:1-2	<p>Live Well Before Outsiders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v1. “<i>Be subject to rulers...</i>” – But what if they are bad? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Does this mean we need to obey the speed limit? [Rom 6:15; 13:1-4; James 4:17; 1Peter 2:13-17] ♦ Why is a good testimony so crucial to maintain? • v1b. “<i>Be ready for every good work</i>” – What does this mean? What does it not mean? Paul once said, “if one doesn’t work, he doesn’t eat” (2Thes 3:10). Scripture also says, “your sins have withheld good things from you” (Jer 25:5). Doing good is tempered. We are not required to do good to prodigal or wicked individuals. • v2a. “<i>Slander no one</i>” – Does this mean we can’t challenge or judge unbiblical stances or behavior (i.e., reprove, rebuke, exhort – 2Tim 4:2)? IOW, avoid bad-mouthing family, friends, co-workers, bosses, and even politicians and TV preachers. • v2b. “<i>Be peaceable, gentle, considerate/courteous to all men</i>” – We may have to call the baby ugly, and to reprove and rebuke, but do it with kindness and love
3:3	<p>Dealing with Addictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember our sinful past when dealing with fallen and hurting people – and be compassionate • “<i>...enslaved to various lusts and pleasures...</i>” – Some struggle with physical and chemical addictions, which takes direct and guided intervention to bring healing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Classical life-controlling addictions (passions of the flesh) include sex, drugs, alcohol, food ♦ Modern addictions: video games, social networking
12-Step Program to cure Tough Sins or Addictions (“Stepping into Freedom” by J.R. Lee)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Admitting Your Powerlessness..... John 15:5 2. Acknowledging Your Belief in Jesus Christ ... John 3:16 3. Affirming Your Need for God’s Care..... John 15:5 4. Auditing Your Life (“Examine Yourself”)..... 2Cor 13:5 5. Accounting for Your Actions..... Rom 14:12 6. Agreeing with God..... Job 22:21 7. Abandoning Your Sins..... Php 3:13 8. Amending Your Ways..... Mat 3:8 9. Acting on Your Amends..... Rom 13:14 10. Analyzing Your Walk with Christ..... Gal 6:4 11. Anchoring Your Walk with Christ..... 1Cor 16:13 12. Advancing Your Faith in Christ..... Heb 6:1

Passage	Comments
3:4-8	<p>Be Transformed by God’s Salvation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v5. God saved us by His mercy –not on our good looks, good deeds, or good behavior. In other words, He didn’t have to save us – He chose to save us, and His Son paid the full price of our admission • v7. Thanks to Jesus, we become joint-heirs with Him in all heavenly blessings Romans 8:16,17 • v8. THEREFORE, we should make an all-out effort to be diligent with GOOD DEEDS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Find out who has a need and seek to help them (elderly, missionaries, neighbors, family, etc.) ♦ Temper any generosity based on prodigal behavior
3:9-11	<p>Deal with Divisive People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v9. “<i>Avoid foolish stuff...</i>” – This doesn’t mean we can’t wrestle with secondary issues, but we need to avoid energy-sapping, time-wasting arguments that deliver no value and cause more harm than good • vv10-11. Avoid contentions people since their sole purpose is to bring you down with them <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ But what about those who legitimately challenge sin in the camp or other serious issues in the church? Do we turn a deaf ear or brand them as contentious & avoid them? In such cases, a church could run the risk of running off their good people and would end up like Sardis → DeadRev 3:1-6 ♦ Hence the need to have mature saints who can discern when some are being sinfully contentious (3:11) & others who are attempting to appropriately reprove and rebuke or point out serious issues
3:12-15	<p>Be Devoted to Good Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v13. “<i>Diligently help Zenas the LAWYER, and Apollos on their way so that nothing is lacking for them</i>” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Support for Zenas and Apollos might have included money, prayers, lodging, and meals ♦ Be in prayer and consider supporting some of our Christian lawyer friends who take on cases for the sake of Christ. [e.g., Jay Sekulow and the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ)]

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- What do you get when someone behaves like Christ, obeys like Christ, avoids sin like Christ, and shares the love of God like Christ?
 - ♦ Some may say such a person would be a Super-Christian. But such a person should be just a Typical Christian

SUPPORTING PASSAGES

Romans 8:16-17. The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

NEXT WEEK: We are in Ephesians for the next quarter. Paul shows how our faith should be lived down at the street level, not 10,000 feet up.

