

## DOING GOOD: "The Work of the Word" Part 2

### INTRODUCTION

- **Key Idea:** Doing Good is the product of the Work of the Word.
- **Last Week:** The Priority of Preaching (Titus 1:3) – Paul wanted God to use him to bring people to faith in Jesus Christ by means of **preaching** the gospel.

### THE PRESS OF PREACHING (TITUS 1:1-4)

#### Factors in a Preacher's Burden:

#### 1. The Press of **Servanthood**

- Paul, a **servant** of God (Titus 1:1) – The word *doulos* can be translated "bondservant" or "slave".

#### 2. The Press of **Scripture**

- Preaching is rooted in the conviction that **God has spoken**. "*It is God's speech which makes our speech necessary.*" (John Stott)
- **If God has spoken**, there is nothing more important than hearing what He has said!

#### Pastoral Applications:

#### A. God's **plan** is always being worked out (Ephesians 1:11).

**What is the "promise" of eternal life in verse 2?** This was a promise that God made to Himself before time began. A conversation that took place within the Trinity, within the secret counsels of God. God promised to redeem a people for Himself. This was both an eternal promise (v.2) and a trustworthy promise (v.2).

- God had a **solution** before man had a problem. "*The Trinity never meets in emergency session.*" (Adrian Rogers)

#### B. God's timing is always perfect. (v.3 – "at the proper time")

- Galatians 4:4 – "when the fullness of time had come. . ."

"With us time is everything, with God timing is everything" (Jack Graham)

#### 3. The Press of **Stewardship**

"through the preaching **with which I have been entrusted** by the command of God our Savior" (Titus 1:3)

- Paul's passion for preaching was driven by a **deep sense of responsibility**.
- Preaching was not an occupation for Paul, it was a **divine calling**.
- Application: Our church's commitment to **Expository Preaching** – The message of the **text** is the message of the **sermon**.
- Effect of the Word: Faith, Knowledge, Change, Hope.

### THE PROCESSION OF PREACHING (TITUS 1:4)

Titus was a *true child in a common faith* – in a long line of faithful men.

*"Don't get too novel – be faithful."*

# Sermon Application Questions

March 31, 2019

## REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

## PERSONAL RESPONSES

1

Pastor Philip made the statement that if God has spoken in His Word, there is nothing more important than paying attention to what He has said. "*Close your magazine, shut your phone down, turn the television off because God has spoken.*" What do you think about this exhortation? What are some of the ways that we can be distracted from listening to God's Word?

2

The theme of stewardship is prominent in Titus 1:1-4. Paul was driven by a deep sense of responsibility for the things of God (v.3). What are some of the things that God has called us to faithfully steward in our lives? How does the concept of stewardship change the way that we view our talents and possessions?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1

Take some time and reflect on some of the key passages related to this week's sermon. Ask the Lord for help in making application of these truths to your life.

*The Press of Scripture*

### **Psalm 12:6**

The words of the LORD are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.

### **Psalm 19:7-10**

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

### **John 17:17**

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

*The Press of Stewardship*

### **Luke 16:10-12**

One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?

### **1 Corinthians 4:1-2**

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

2

**Read Matthew 25:14-30.** What are some of the observations that you have after reading this text? What are the characteristics of a faithful steward found in this parable?

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

1

Author Jon Bloom has noted that we “live today in an age of unprecedented distraction. . . Many of us feel it: the buzzing brain, the attention atrophy, the diminishing tolerance for reading, especially reading books.”

In light of the distractions that surround us, what are some practices that you have developed to focus better on God’s Word? **Note:** If you are in a Small Group, please share some of your “best practices” with others!

→

→

→

2

Pastor Philip made the pastoral application that “*God has a solution before you have a problem.*” What is one specific problem that you are facing today? Write out a prayer of devotion thanking God that He already has a solution to that problem planned out.

*“God’s never stumped. God’s never swamped. God’s never stymied. . .  
We can trust the plan of God.”  
(De Courcy)*

*“There is no panic in heaven! God has no problems, only plans.”  
(Corrie Ten Boom)*