

MEFC Community Group Study Guide

For the Week of February 9th -15th

We're going to follow the COMA method of studying the Bible, with adaptation to our text, Titus 1:1-3. The COMA method comes from Pastor David Helm in the book *One-to-One Bible Reading*.

Context

What clues does Paul's letter to Titus provide about the person of Titus and the situation in Crete?

Observation

What section of the letter is Titus 1:1-4? How does it compare to other Pauline introductions? What clues are there about Paul and his circumstance?

How does the text break down into sections? What are the key connecting words (e.g. for, therefore, but, because) that indicate the flow of the passage?

Are there ideas that are repeated elsewhere in this letter? How does it relate to the rest of the letter?

Are there any surprises in the flow of the argument (hint: reflect on why Paul has such an extended introduction of himself to his genuine child in the faith)?

Meaning

How does Paul answer the questions, "Who am I?" and "What is my purpose?"?

What does it mean to be a servant of God (Col 1:7; 4:7, 12; 2 Tim 2:24; Rom 6:16; 1 Cor 7:22; Eph 6:6; 1 Pet 2:16; Rev 7:3; 19:15; 22:3)?

What does it mean to be God's elect people (see also Ps 105:6, 43; Is 43:20; 45:4; 65:9, 15, 23; Matthew 22:14; 24:22, 24, 31; Mark 3:20, 22, 27; Luke 18:7; 23:35; Rom 8:33; Col 3:12; 2 Tim 2:10; 1 Pet 1:1; 2:4; Rev 17:14)?

What is the "knowledge of truth" (see also 1 Tim 2:3-6; 2 Tim 2:25; 3:7; Heb 10:26)

What do we learn about God? What does it mean that he has manifested what he promised beforehand (see also 1 Cor 2:6-10; Eph 1:9-10; 3:4-11; Col 1:25-27; 2 Tim 1:9-10; Rom 16:25-26)?

What does the passage teach us about God's people and life in this world?

What is the main point, in one sentence?

Application

How does Titus 1:1-4 confirm or challenge your understanding and beliefs, such as

1) What is your identity? 2) What is your purpose in life? 3) Any others?

Given the connection between theology (conviction, truth) and Christian living (mission, maturity, character), what then needs to change in your thoughts, desires and actions?

Application (cont.)

Does the balance of ministry in our church lean towards maturing believers in godliness or seeking to save the lost? How about in your own individual life? What is the next action step for you in evangelism? What is the next step for you to grow in godliness within Christian community?

Sermon Notes for 2/9/20**Titus 1:1-3****“Our Secure Mission”**

Every Christian is a servant of God sent on a mission to be and make disciples of Jesus.

**Therefore, for the salvation of 75 of God’s elect, you must...*

1. Embrace your identity as God’s _____. (1:1, 3b)

2. Aim for _____ targets. (1:1b-2)

But...

3. Rest in God’s _____ plan. (1:2-3)

Next Week: Titus 1:4