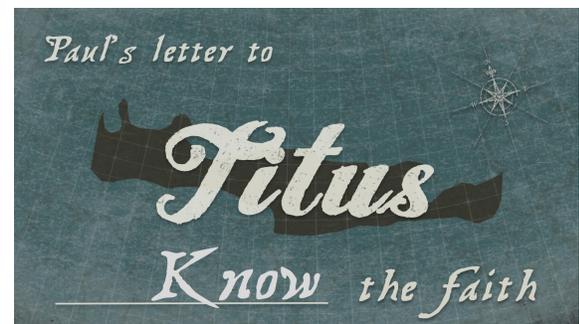




Living Water
Church

Diving Deeper: A Gather Group discussion guide
or personal devotional guide



Know the Faith

Introduction: The book of Titus was a letter written by Paul to a younger pastor named Titus. Titus was used greatly by God and entrusted to handle difficult situations and to resolve issues. Paul sent Titus to the island of Crete to help set straight the doctrine and structure of the churches at Crete. He emphasized the importance of sound faith and practice. It is vital for every Christian to “know” the true faith of what makes one a Christian.

Text: Titus 1:1-4; 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: Have you ever been involved with a group or team that lost focus of the purpose of that group? What caused some of the problems? Why is it important to make the “main thing” the main thing?
2. The churches in Titus were in danger of false teaching and unorganized & unqualified leadership. Why is it important to have correct doctrine? Why is it important to have structure? Why is it important to have qualified leaders?
3. Paul addressed himself as a “servant” of God. The greek word is “slave.” Why does Paul refer to himself in this way?
4. Read 1 Cor. 6:19-20 & 1 Peter 1:19—Who own’s the child of God? Why is this important to understand?
5. Paul was sent by Jesus to declare the gospel. The gospel is the doctrine of God. The gospel is the mystery of Christ. The gospel is the foundation of our faith. They gospel is revealed through the incarnation of Jesus, his life of perfection, his death on the cross as an atoning sacrifice, his burial, his resurrection, and his future return. Why do so many people move away from the gospel message and focus on other “agendas” or “pet doctrines? How can a believer and a church make sure that they are gospel centered in their knowledge of the truth.
6. The gospel is grounded on the truth of the work of Christ that produces a work in the believer through the power of the Holy Spirit. The gospel accords with godliness. Read Titus 2:11-14 & Titus 3:4-7. It is clear that the Lord saves individual by his own mercy. There is no work we can do to merit or earn salvation. Once God redeems us, he then makes us new and clean through the washing and filling of the Holy Spirit. The believer has new desires and passions to follow Jesus. The true believer will love what Jesus loves and hate what Jesus hates. How does the believer renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, live self controlled and upright godly lives?
7. There are people who claim to be believers, yet embrace sexually immoral lifestyles as normal and accepting for Christian behavior. Why are they wrong? Why do they show themselves to not be genuine believers?
8. Paul says that God never lies. What does that do for your faith knowing that you can fully trust what God says? What are the promises given to the believer?
9. Paul says that he and Titus have a “common” faith. It is a shared faith. Why is it important to realize that this is a shared faith between Jews and Gentiles?
10. Why is the New Covenant important to understand when speaking of our faith?
11. We live in-between two appearing of Christ. His first coming was one of grace; the second coming will be one of glory. How should we live, as believers, in the middle of the two appearings?
12. Why is it important to view the gospel as the main doctrine for faith and practice?

Think About it:

There is only one God. He has revealed himself as Father, Son, and Spirit—three in one. The Father loved the world and sent His Son to die for sinners. The Holy Spirit seals the believer until the day of redemption. If the entire bible is about how God became man to save sinners, then why look for any other gospel? If Paul made it his life’s aim to know nothing except the death, burial, resurrection, and return, then why do so many search for other answers. If God never lies, and we have his words given to us through scripture, why do we look for other books? Know the faith!

Moving Forward:

Walk in the power of the gospel. Thank God every day for salvation and make it your aim to live to please him in all you do. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you and open your eyes to see the opportunities to share the gospel with others.