Session 5: Putting It All Together

Objective: Internalize and synthesize the contents of the book of Titus and understand what it is trying to communicate

Step 1: Look back over the book of Titus and identify any major sections that you now see in the book (that you maybe didn't see before when you were going through the first time).

1:1-4 Introduction & Overview

1:5-16 The Task for Titus – what needs to be done (2 Paragraphs)

2:1-15 Instructions for Titus – how he ought to lead (2 Paragraphs + 1 summary statement)

3:1-11 Recap of the task and instructions – what to do and how to do it (1 big paragraph)

3:12-15 Practical matters (1 Paragraph + benediction)

Step 2: Look back through your overview of the book as well as each of the deep dives into the individual chapters and summarize what the book has to say.

Introduction: Paul's purpose is to relate the gospel to God's people so that they might be strengthened in faith and live rightly for God's glory – as enabled by the gift of God through Jesus.

Task: Put the church in order by appointing qualified elders in every town so that the truth of God can be proclaimed and worthless noise can be rebuked or rejected.

Instruction: Teach sound doctrine; enable others to teach sound doctrine through the generations. Model what you teach so everyone knows what you're talking about and sees what it looks like while defending yourself from frivolous attack. This teaching is not from you but from God who is training us through His Spirit to have a proper perspective.

Recap: Submission not arrogance, obedience and courtesy not quarrelling and evil talk (you were once lost too); Division is a sign of ungodly influence, so get rid of the dividers.

Practical matters: Enable the work of the gospel by helping the other leaders in their tasks.

Step 3: Write a single sentence that summarizes the theme or purpose of the book.

As an apostle with authority from God, Paul charges Titus to finish the job on Crete by appointing qualified leaders and rooting out those who promote worthless talk while modeling godly behavior in his life and encouraging it throughout the church. As other gospel workers arrive, he should facilitate their mission and their travels.

Step 4: Identify a single verse which provides the key to the book. This could be the key truth or could be a verse that provides a summary of the book.

Titus - A Bible Study

Titus 1:5 – In this verse Paul explains why he is writing the letter and what he wants Titus to do. Most of the rest of the book is explaining the details of this charge.

Step 5: Considering the way you've mapped the audience, what's one application that comes out of the book of Titus?

Taken from Titus 1:15 –

- To the pure all things are pure – Following Jesus leads to a virtuous life, there is no reproach or error in it.
- To the defiled … nothing is pure – but those who do not follow Jesus are corrupted and incapable of producing anything of value to the pure.

This double command or double definition lays out the way of life for the believer. All knowledge that comes from God is beneficial and helpful. But anything that comes from a sin-corrupted mind will produce the death of sin.

The application is pretty direct for me. The truth is a universal truth that travels through time and across culture very well. Beware where I go for guidance, advice and direction. There is nothing redeemable in the worldly wisdom – it is corrupt and broken and defiled and will produce only defilement in my life. To find wisdom I must exclusively look to the gospel.

Step Six: Compare your conclusions

What do you think?