

Titus 2:11-3:15
Intentional Mission
Outline for Congregation

To remain intentional in serving others we need the grace (2:11, 3:7, 3:15) and mercy (3:5) of God.

Zealous for Good Works (2:14)

- We have a new zeal – our former zeal has been for ourselves (2:12, 14; 3:3), but God has done something that transforms us (2:11-14)
- To only resist temptation or only try to do good won't work – we renounce (2:12) our old enthusiasm because there are things much worthier of our enthusiasm (2:15)

Careful To Be Devoted To Good Works (3:8)

- Crucial point: “not because of works done by us in righteousness” (3:5) – why then do good?
- The goodness and loving kindness of God (3:4) – his mercy (3:5)
- “insist on these things” (3:8) – they are excellent and profitable
- the person who understands these things (3:3-7) will be ready for every good work (3:1)

Learning Devotion To Good Works (3:14)

- Good works flow from a life of faith in God (3:8) and those with new life (Spiritual life 3:5-6) become “fruitful” (3:14) – this is a process of growth

Questions for reflection:

1. Are you better at “spontaneous mission” or “intentional mission”? Are you more willing to drop everything and step into a crisis or care for someone persistently and sacrificially over a long period of time? With whichever you are less inclined towards: what is challenging (for you) about that form of service and outreach?
2. Titus 3:4-7 tells us that God saved His people out of His kindness and mercy, and not because His people had done works of righteousness. How can a deep grasp of this inspire a greater willingness to serve others sacrificially? What new motivations are there for the person who believes this?
3. How can you turn your own struggles and frustrations in loving others into opportunities to grow in admiration for Jesus and the extent of his love?
4. As you evaluate your life, how can you live more intentionally so that you are loving others? Do you spend your money in a way that enables you to give to support people in need? Is there any time in a typical week spent in service to others? Do you have gifts and abilities that are put into service of others?
5. We are to learn to devote ourselves to good works. What are next steps in your life for you to grow in being intentional to reach out in service to others?