

LIFE GROUP LESSON

Grow Up • Week of October 27

Although the apostle Paul never had biological sons, Paul did have sons-in-the-faith – two that we know of, Timothy and Titus (see 1 Timothy 1:2, Titus 1:4). Paul was patient with his spiritual sons and faithfully poured sound instruction and encouragement into these young men. Paul loved them like a true father and longed for them to lead well the churches in their care. For example, Paul says to Titus: “I left you on the island of Crete so you could complete our work there and appoint elders in each town as I instructed you” (Titus 1:5). These words penned many years ago, challenge us today. Do we have a Grown-Up Faith? Are we as Christ-followers completing the work Christ gives us and faithfully standing for truth in a fallen world?

Read Titus 2:11-15

“For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people” (v11). God’s grace is revealed through the Lord Jesus Christ Himself! Christ left heaven, came to this earth as a man, took our place on the cross, and rose from death in absolute victory – forever proving He is God’s one and only Son (see Acts 17:31). In Christ Jesus *every* person can have a personal love relationship with God and become conduits of grace to the world around us. In tangible ways, we can immediately begin pointing others to Christ’s love.

1. One of the best ways you can *immediately* begin maturing in your faith is to tell other people your story – simply, what Christ has done (is doing) for you. Who is the Lord asking you to talk to— simply invite to church, Life Group, or perhaps share your faith?

Write their names (or initials) in the space below, and begin by praying for them.

Paul tells Titus:

“We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. He gave His life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us His very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds” (vv12b-14).

2. Christ expects us to move from an uncertain “I’ll try-mentality” to a definitive “I’m willing to be in trained-attitude!” How are you stepping into being ‘totally committed to doing good deeds’?

Christ Church is in **Seven-Days-of-Generosity**. Christ gave His life! What are you willing to give? Write it down. Pray over it. Ask the Lord for grace to give.

The Holy Spirit trains us to be disciplined in all areas of life. Christ Church’s six-fold covenant trains us to attend worship regularly, study God’s Word daily and learn through Life Groups, to pray, invite and serve others, and tithe our income to the ‘storehouse’ (the local church). One-on-one training with Coach Jesus positions and equips us for His return and heavenly citizenship. Every day, we must include heaven in our thoughts and long-range plans.

3. Read the following Scriptures. Pray first as you begin to read, then jot down each new thought that comes to mind. How would your life (and future) be different if you started living into the following passages of Scripture? How could your long-range planning include more of heaven and less of earth?
 - a) Colossians 3:1-4
 - b) Philippians 3:17-21
 - c) Matthew 6:19-24
 - d) Luke 12:35-38



Text: Titus 2:11-14

PLAIN TRUTH:

We must move from _____ to _____ in order to grow up.

The apostle Paul says: “Carefully determine what pleases the Lord” (Ephesians 5:10). We belong to God and a Grown-Up Faith is a faith that understands that “The LORD merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born. He assigned the seas its boundaries and locked the oceans in vast reservoirs... For when He spoke, the world Began! It appeared at His command” (Psalm 33:6-7, 9). God knows everything about you. He understands our struggles, our weakness. He is gracious towards us. And yet, His grace also enables us to withstand storms and come out bringing Him glory. Is grace *at work* in you?

The psalmist goes on to declare: “The LORD looks down from heaven and sees the whole human race. From His throne He observes all who live on the earth. He made their hearts, so He understands everything they do” (Psalm 33:13-15). People who truly fear God turn from rebellion. Is your heart hard toward giving?

- 4. If you experience some level of ‘push-back’ every time tithing, offering, or generosity is mentioned – ask the Lord to help you. Give the Lord permission to change in you what needs to be changed, to start the spiritual-training. Pray:

“Lord, I need help with _____. I confess I have held _____ against _____ for too long. Will you forgive me for this immaturity, and recondition my heart to grow up? I don’t want to be a big baby when it comes to my faith and discipleship. Lord, I trust you. Thank you for your patience. I give myself to training. Amen.”

- 1. **We must move from _____ to _____ in order to grow up.**

- a) Seven days of Generosity is spiritual _____—training.
- b) Praying for _____ participation—do your _____.
- c) Praying for people to _____ who haven’t.
- d) Praying for _____ and _____ gifts.

- 2. **We must move from _____ to _____ in order to grow up.**

- 3. **We must move from _____ to _____ in order to grow up.**

One Year Bible Reading
Oct. 27: Jeremiah 51:1-53, Titus 2:1-15, Psalm 99:1-9, Proverbs 26:17
Oct. 28: Jeremiah 51:54-52:34, Titus 3:1-15, Psalm 100:1-5, Proverbs 26:18-19
Oct. 29: Lamentations 1:1-2:22, Philemon 1:1-25, Psalm 101:1-8, Proverbs 26:20
Oct. 30: Lamentations 3:1-66, Hebrews 1:1-14, Psalm 102:1-28, Proverbs 26:21-22
Oct. 31: Lamentations 4:1-5:22, Hebrews 2:1-18, Psalm 103:1-22, Proverbs 26:23
Nov. 1: Ezekiel 1:1-3:15, Hebrews 3:1-19, Psalm 104:1-23, Proverbs 26:24-26
Nov. 2: Ezekiel 3:16-6:14, Hebrews 4:1-16, Psalm 104:24-35, Proverbs 26:27