

Do unto Others as God Has Done unto You
Titus 3:1-8

1. How We Treat Others (vv. 1-2): *“Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, ² to malign no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.”*

2. How God Treats Us (vv. 3-8): *“For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, ⁵ He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.”*

Getting Started:

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. Can you think of a time when someone treated you better than you deserved? What did they do? How did it affect you?

For Further Thought and Discussion:

3. Paul encourages the Cretans to be "*ready*" for every good deed (v. 1; see 2:14; 3:8, 14)? What does a person "*ready*" to do good look like? Do you know anyone like this? What keeps you from having this mindset?
4. In verses 4-7, Paul gives a detailed account of salvation (note that these verses comprise one sentence, and "*he saved*" is the main verb). Paul tells us *when* God saved us (v. 4), *why* God saved us (v. 5), *how* God saved us (v. 6), and *what* God saved us *for* (v. 7). At present, which of these gospel truths is most meaningful/significant to you? Why?
5. Paul says, "*This statement is trustworthy*" (v. 8). What "*statement*" is Paul referring to? Why will the truth of this "*statement*" (i.e. "*these things*") cause the Cretans to "*be careful to engage in good deeds*" (v. 8)? In light of this, what should motivate us to do good works?

Application:

6. In this passage, Paul seeks to demonstrate that God treats us better than we deserve. In his sermon, Jeff mentioned several barriers to believing this truth. Which of these do you struggle with? Why?
7. Practically, what can you do to internalize the truth of verses 4-7, so that it impacts your day-to-day outlook?
8. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this message?