

Youth Bible Study Lesson 23

Before we begin our next lesson on the study of young women being taught to love their children, I would like to take a look at the culture of the day when Paul wrote this epistle to Titus.

Paul leaves Titus in _____ Titus 1:5 to set in _____ the things that were _____ and _____ elders in every city. Titus would need godly men to assist in the ministry at Crete. First, there were the Judizers vs. 10 "specially they of the _____:" who were teaching legalism and who had turned from the _____ vs. 14. Note that Paul doesn't encourage Titus to "get along" with those who teach error but to _____ them _____, that they may be _____ in the _____." Vs. 13

The Cretians knew of Peter's message in Acts 2. It seems some of them were at Jerusalem and were devout Jews, Acts 2:5 & 11. Then Paul comes to Crete in Acts 27:7 and spends much time there vs. 9.

What was life like in Crete? Titus 1:12 "One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always _____, evil _____, slow _____." And Paul confirms this statement in vs. 13 "This witness is _____..."

The Cretian society was made up of liars, evil beasts and slow bellies. In other words, a corrupt, wicked, heathen, selfish, self centered, lazy bunch. With their share of corrupt religion misleading the masses.

So what has changed?? I hear so often "It's sooo hard to raise children in today's society." Really! Would you have rather raised children in Crete?

It is into this darkness at Crete that Paul shines the glorious gospel of grace and many people get saved. Now with the help of ordained elders in _____ city, Titus 1:5, Paul gives instructions for godly living. Especially godly families in Titus 2:1-8 which is the passage we are studying.

The young Cretian women had to start taking in the sound doctrine of the Word of God to instruct them concerning their husbands and children. Previous to getting saved they had indulged themselves in the natural, brute, self centered, lustful lifestyle that permeates any corrupt society. Our twenty first century society is no exception.

We've come to the part of Titus 2:4 that instructs the godly aged women to teach the young women to "love their children."

Don't women just naturally love their children? Some do, maybe most do in a natural sense. But God is talking about things we don't naturally know. Spiritual things come from God and are foreign to our natural man. Once a person is saved (trusts Christ as their Savior, believing that He alone died for their sins on the cross, was buried and rose again,) they now are indwelt by the Holy Spirit and are able to receive the things of God.

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Read I Cor. 2:9-14. Vs. 12 says "Now we have _____, not the

spirit of the _____, but the _____ which is of _____; that we might _____ the things that are freely given to us of _____." Vs. 14 "But the _____ man receiveth _____ the things of the Spirit of _____: for they are _____ unto him: neither can he _____ them, because they are _____ discerned."

Loving our children from God's perspective will:

1. Give us the proper view of them. Yes, they are cute little bundles of joy but they like ourselves were sown in I Cor. 15:42 _____ and sown in _____ and _____ in vs. 43 it is sown a _____ body in vs. 44. They bear as we do the image of the _____ in vs. 49 and vs. 50 we see that "..._____ and _____ cannot inherit the _____ of _____; neither doeth _____ inherit _____." We should first see our children as physically and spiritually corrupt. Eph. 2:1 "And you hath he _____ who were _____ in trespasses and _____." They like ourselves are _____ from the life of God in Eh. 4:18 and _____ in their sins according to Col. 2:13.

Knowing our children's condition will cause us to act to meet these needs. I think of Hannah when she had Samuel and had this desire for him, I Sam. 1:22 "But Hannah went not up: for she said unto her husband, I will not go up until the child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may _____ before the Lord, and there abide _____." I can't think of a better desire for a loving mother to have for her child than that he or she appear before the Lord and there abide forever. In order for one to be able to appear before the Lord we must be perfect and righteous. Habakkuk 1:13 "Thou are of _____ eyes than to behold _____, and canst not _____ on _____..." Rom. 3:23 "For all have sinned and come _____ of the _____ of God." Rom. 3:10 "There is none _____ no not one" Rom. 3:12 "...there is none that doeth _____, no, not one." That is why Christ came, to take upon himself our sin, to pay the penalty for our sins. II Cor. 5:21 "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the _____ of God _____," In Jesus Christ we are made the righteousness of God. Now appearing before God as _____ and _____ blame _____ him in love." Eph. 1:4. Our love for our children should cause us to do all we can to bring them to salvation. Appearing before the Lord clothed in His righteousness. And then to see them abide there forever, rooted, established, built up in the faith! Col. 2:7 "_____ and _____ up in him, and _____ in the faith..."

2. Do the things to bring them to salvation and maturity of faith Deut. 6:7 "And thou shalt _____ them _____ unto they _____, and shalt talk of them when thou _____ in thy house, and when thou _____ in thine house, and when thou _____ by the way, and when thou _____ down, and when thou _____ up." Ps. 78:4-7 "We will not hide them from their _____, showing to the generation to come the _____ of the _____, and his wonderful _____ that he _____"

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vs. 5. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their _____; vs. 6 That the generation to come might _____ them, even the children who should be _____,

who should arise and declare them to their children; vs. 7 That they might _____ their _____ in God, and not _____ the _____ of _____, but keep his _____;"

Paul says of Timothy that; II Tim. 3:15 "And that from a _____ thou hast _____ the holy _____..." Lois and Eunice were Timothy's grandmother and mother. They had an _____ faith according to II Tim. 1:5. Unfeigned means genuine, real and sincere. Loving our children demands a care for their spiritual condition that is met with the sound teaching of the word of God, a life that points our children to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Next week we will consider how loving our children includes meeting their physical needs and the discipline of children that is so needful.

Lesson 23 Answers and Comments

Crete earthly rooted
Order flesh built
Wanting blood stablished
Ordain kingdom teach
Circumcision God diligently
Truth corruption children
Rebuke incorruption sittest
Sharply quickened walkest
Sound dead liest
Faith sins risest
Liars alienated children
Beasts dead praises
Bellies appear Lord
True for works
Every ever hath
Received purer done
World evil children
Spirit look know
God iniquity born
Natural short set
Not glory hope
God righteous forget
Foolishness good work
Know righteousness God
Spiritually in commandments
Corruption him child
Dishonor holy known
Weakness without scriptures
Natural before unfeigned

Having a godly understanding of our children's physical and spiritual condition will cause us to move to meet these needs. That's what love is all about. Saved parents do not reproduce a saved child. They reproduce a sinner. Loving that child with the gospel and godliness that points them to Christ should be at the forefront of every saved parents life.