

LISTEN UP & WRITE IT DOWN

The Gospel & Your Neighbors

The Gospel for Real Life

Titus 2:11-3:11, 1 Peter 3:13-18

Sunday, November 23, 2008

Introduction

While we were sleeping, the world was changing . . .

How shall we now live? How do we move forward from here?

1. We move forward by Gospel _____.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age. —Titus 3:11-13

2. We move forward by Gospel _____.

Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men . . . —Titus 3:1-2

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3. We move forward by Gospel _____.

But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always [being] ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence . . . —1 Peter 3:15

4. We move forward by Gospel _____.

For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong. For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God . . . — 1 Peter 3:17-18

THINK IT OVER!

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1. Read Titus 2:11-3:11 and 1 Peter 3:13-18 together. Summarize what these texts tell us about our living in the world today and in all times.
2. List some of the many, many magnificent results of the Gospel mentioned by Paul in Titus 2 and 3.
3. Why, according to Titus 3:3, should the Gospel make us “ready for every good work, maligning no one, peaceable, gentle, showing consideration for all men?”
4. What, according to 1 Peter 3:15, should we be ready for? How should we do this? Where do we get the courage and power to do this?
5. Why, according to 1 Peter 3:18 should we be ready to suffer for doing what is right?

WORK IT OUT!

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1. What was new and most challenging for you in this week’s text/message?
2. Do you notice the quickly turning cultural tide? Do you see the growing open hostility toward Christians among some? What are some of your natural reactions and responses to what you see?
3. What are some ways that you can throw the unbelievers in our lives some “curve balls”? How do we show them our love? Who is one unbeliever you can serve right now and how? (THINK HARD!)
4. Do you feel able to share your faith if someone asked? What would you say? How would you explain the Gospel? (Hint: Titus 2 & 3 have some great lines!) Is there anyone that’s close enough to you that they might want to ask?
5. Which of these things is most challenging for you: Gospel steadfastness, Gospel serving, Gospel speaking, or Gospel suffering? How can you grow in this area? How can the Gospel help you grow in this area?