



We all have daily habits: starting the day with coffee, working out during your lunch break or attempting to eat dinner in the evening as a family. If you're still in school you know all too well the definition of routine: first period, second period, lunch and on and on it goes.

For some of us, routines are harder to come by: My wife Jessi is a mother to three and no matter how hard she might try to create a "schedule", you can rest assured someone (usually Ava) will take that schedule and burn it to the ground.

No doubt, if you are a Christian you likely desire to daily (at least on paper) spend time in the Word & in prayer. And at least weekly (if not more) join your life together in community with other believers.

Our text this week is Titus 2, which is considered by many to be Paul's vision for the church in Crete (where Titus was the pastor). A brief overview of Titus will show you that Ch. 1 speaks to the necessity of appointing gospel-centered leaders, while Ch. 3 highlights the gospel as the engine to mission.

But Ch. 2 is all about the gospel being central to the everyday life of the church. As they meet for coffee, gather in each others homes and live life among the Cretans, Paul encourages Titus to help make the gospel a central component to the churches daily conversations.

As a group: Read Titus 2, and consider the following questions:

## LET'S START WITH THE GOSPEL (vv. 11-13)

1. What is the grace of God that Paul mentions in v. 11?
2. The phrase, “offers salvation to all people” is often mistaken as Paul’s endorsement of universalism (the idea that all will be saved). Is universalism consistent with Christian doctrine? Why or why not? What biblical evidence would suggest it is not?
3. In v. 11 Paul says, “the grace of God has appeared (past)”...and in v. 13 he says, “we wait for the blessed hope...the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ (future).”
  - A. Theologians have often referred to the present as “Between Grace & Glory”. Meaning presently, we live in-between the coming of grace and the coming of glory. Jesus has come in grace as a suffering servant, and will come again as a glorious King.
    1. How does knowing God has come in grace motivate us to live godly lives in the present?
    2. How does knowing God will come in glory motivate us to live godly lives in the present?
    3. When was a time you’ve needed the push of grace or the pull of glory in your walk with Jesus?

## THE GOSPEL CONTINUED (v. 14)

One of the ways we can encourage each another in the gospel is through considering God’s grace and coming glory (as seen above). Another is through the grid of the Gospel for us, in us and through us.

1. What does v. 14 tell us about what Jesus has done for us?
2. What does v. 14 tell us about what Jesus is doing in us?
3. What does v. 14 tell us about what Jesus wants to do through us?
4. If someone was struggling with the idea that God did not love them, how might you encourage them through this gospel grid? What gospel hope could you provide them with?
5. If someone was struggling with being a witness for Christ, how might you encourage them through this gospel grid?

6. If someone spoke to you about a deep and personal struggle over sin, how might you encourage them through this gospel grid?
7. Gospel for you. Gospel in you. Gospel through you. Which of these is particularly meaningful to you today?

## A LIFE DRIVEN BY THE GOSPEL (vv. 1-10)

Now that we have a working grid and understanding of the gospel, we can best approach the commands of Paul to the various groups of people found in 2:1-10. We must always note: the engine that drives Christian obedience is always deep gratitude and love for Jesus. It is never encouraging to hear what we must do for God, outside of hearing FIRST what God has done for us, in Christ. If you find yourself struggling to obey the Word, do not simply try harder, but admit your inability, rest in God’s grace and ask Him to empower you to live a life for Him.

1. Why do you think Paul started the chapter with commands first and gospel second?
  - a. Does this mean his commands are irrelevant?
2. Consider the group mentioned by Paul that best fits your life stage:
  - a. As you look at your life: which if Paul’s words encourage and challenge you?
  - b. How might your obedience to these commands create a counter-cultural environment at work, home or school this week?
  - c. Why does the watching world need to see these commands in action? And if/when they do - what do we say is the reason for our obedience?
3. How does Paul describe the idea of discipleship in these verses?
  - a. For those younger, what would it look like to learn from those who are older?
  - b. If you are older, what would it look like to invest in those who are younger?

***“The gospel is the central element in the Christian life which continually renews the believer and the Church.” - Tim Keller***

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