

Titus 1:3-4 Lesson 4

October 11,13, 2022

I. Two Reasons why the Hope of Eternal Life is Secure (1:2-3a)

II. The Proclamation of the Word Entrusted (1:3b)

III. My true child in a common faith (1:4a)

IV. Grace and Peace (1:4b)

V. Biblical Friendship, what it is and what it's not

“Biblical friendship exists when two or more people, bound together by a common faith in Jesus Christ, pursue Him and His kingdom with intentionality and vulnerability. Rather than serving as an end in itself, biblical friendship serves primarily to bring glory to Christ, who brought us into friendship with the Father. It is indispensable to the work of the gospel in the earth, and an essential element of what God has created us for.”

“Biblical friendship is when Christian fellowship is taken to the next level and applied more personally. It is given added depth, refinement, and detail through the active investment in one another's lives.” Jonathan Holmes

Possible POA's for us to deeply ponder from Titus 1:1-4.

- Do you have assurance of genuine saving faith and eternal life? If not, please talk to someone today.
- Are you serving the Master joyfully and without complaint, even when not convenient? True saving faith responds in obedience.
- Are you consistently taking in God's word and cultivating godliness in your life? Is your life evidence of God's divine election?
- Do you have a growing allegiance and commitment to Jesus Christ resulting in a godly life?
- Are you actively praying for the lost and intentional in sharing the gospel?
- Are you living in light of the reality of the kingdom that is coming, your true and final destination?
- Does the promise of eternal life motivate you to love and serve Christ, even if persecution and suffering comes your way as it did in Paul's life?
- Are you always ready to give an answer of the hope that is in you? 1 Pet. 3
- Do you rest in God's promises, believing Him to be trustworthy?
- Are experiencing a peace that passes all understanding, despite the turbulence of life's circumstances?
- Do others see you as a co-laborer in ministry? Or said another way, are you being used as an instrument in the Redeemer's hand?
- Are you using your sp. gifts and talents to love and serve others for His name's sake? When's the last time you wrote a note to someone to thank and encourage them for their service in the ministry?
- Are you actively pursuing biblical friendships that serve primarily to bring glory to Christ? *Pursuing the lost for friendship ideally leading to Christ and pursuing fellow believers for friendship grounded in Christ and His word.*
- The absolute best friend is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Blessed Savior, Thou hast promised
Thou wilt all our burdens bear;
May we ever, Lord, be bringing
All to Thee in earnest prayer.
Soon in glory bright, unclouded,
There will be no need for prayer—
Rapture, praise, and endless worship
Will be our sweet portion there.