

A Thriving Church is Fruitful

May 28, 2023 | Pastor Jonathan Pafford

Titus 3:12-15

A healthy _____ begins with healthy _____ that influences, through healthy _____, the whole body to spiritually grow in healthy _____.

HOW DO WE LEARN TO DEVOTE OURSELVES TO GOOD WORKS SO THAT WE ARE A THRIVING CHURCH?

1. A thriving church _____ healthy culture

Create, Cultivate, and Care for a thriving church

- Leadership that _____ in and _____ from sound teaching and Christ-like living (Titus 1:5-2:1)
- Shepherding culture that _____ from being spiritually unfruitful (Titus 1:10-16; 3:9-11)
- Imparts _____ influence that fosters Christ-like character (Titus 2:2-10)
- Everyone remembers, relives, retells, and rejoices in Christ's _____ work (Titus 2:11-3:8)

2. A thriving church _____ to do good works (v 14)

- "Devote" -

Pressing Needs

- Titus to _____ the churches in Crete for either Artemas or Tychicus to take over
- Titus to _____ Zenas and Apollos to meet Paul in Nicopolis where he planned to stay for the winter
- The believers in Crete to " _____ " Zenas the lawyer and Apollos who would travel with Titus

Fruitful believers don't have to be _____. They just have to be _____.

3. A thriving church _____ Christ grown fruit (v 14)

- *2 Peter 3:3-8*
- *Galatians 5:22-24*

4. A thriving church _____ abides in Jesus to be fruitful

- *John 15:1-8*

*“Above all, remember, Christ is the Vine of God’s planting, and you are a branch of God’s grafting. Stand always before God, in Christ—waiting for all grace from God, in Christ. Yielding yourself to bear the ‘more fruit’ for which the Husbandman asks, in Christ. And pray much for the revelation of the mystery that all the love and power of God that rested on Christ is working in you, too. ‘I am God’s Vine,’ Jesus says, ‘All I am I have from Him; all I am is for you; God will work it in you.’[1]
-Andrew Murray*

[1] Andrew Murray, *The True Vine* (New Kensington, PA: Whitaker House, 2002).