

Doing Good & Dodging Cul-De-Sac's of Controversy

Titus 3:8-11

July 17-18, 2021 – Daniel Fender

- Saved To Serve — Dress Up Good Doctrine With Good Deeds

What to Focus On In Controversial Times?

1. Focus on the Gospel In Controversial Times (3:3-7)
 2. Focus on Connecting What You Believe God Has Done for You With What You are Doing (3:3-8)
 3. Focus on Carefully Devoting Yourself to Good Works (3:8)
 4. Confront the Culture by Believing & Living the Gospel (3:1-8)
- Why? — These Things are Excellent & Profitable for People (3:8)

What To Avoid In Controversial Times (3:9)

1. Avoid Foolish Controversies (Fighting Foolishly)
 2. Avoid Genealogies (Boasting in Race & Tribe)
 3. Avoid Dissensions (Debating Based on Rivalry, Position & Power, Not Based on Substance & Truth)
 4. Avoid Quarrels About the Law (Legal Disputes that Divide But Do Not Serve a Greater Purpose)
- Why? — Some Controversies are Unprofitable & Worthless

What To Do When a Person is Divisive & Controversial (In Church) (3:10-11)

1. Warn Once
 2. Warn Twice
 3. Have Nothing More to Do With the Person
- Why? — Some People are Warped, Sinful & Self-Condemed

Community Group Discussion Questions:

1. Read Titus 3:8-11. What in this passage and sermon stuck out for you?
2. What are some of the contentions currently in our culture? How do these affect and influence what we focus on as individuals and as a church?
3. Look at the list of things to be avoided in Titus 3:9. What makes focusing on these areas unprofitable and worthless?
4. Consider Titus 3:10-11. At first reading it can sound harsh. How can a church community live these instructions in a loving way? Why is it sometimes loving to dodge a debate rather than engage in more debate? What wisdom from God's Word helps us decided when to press into a controversy and when to dodge cul-de-sac's of controversy?