

SAVED BY GRACE. NOW WHAT?

Titus 3:1-8

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- How do you define justification?
- What is grace?

Talking about the balance between how God saves us and what we do as a result of our salvation can seem like walking a tightrope. Focus too much on how a Christian behaves and what a Christian does and we can begin to sound like we're preaching salvation by works. In contrast, talking only about salvation by grace and never talking about how that salvation changes us can really communicate an incomplete picture of grace and the Christian life. By studying the apostle Paul's instruction to Titus, we can learn a lot about maintaining the proper perspective so we can both be thankful for the gift of salvation and grow in Christian living that honors God.

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- How does remembering our original sinful nature, as the apostle Paul encourages in Titus 3:1-3, help believers combat the pitfalls of pride?
- In your experience with church, have the concepts of justification by grace and justification by faith been at the heart of your church's teaching and ministry? Describe the experiences that inform your answer and the effects they had on your faith.
- Can you identify ways your behavior changed as a result of your salvation by grace? How often do you think about or reflect on the connection between your faith and your behavior? What effect has intentional reflection had on your behavior?
- Based on Titus 3:1-8, how do you think Paul would define good works? How would you define or describe good works in the life of a Christian? Do they always involve some form of volunteerism or philanthropy or are there other ways a Christian can live out good works as fruit of their faith?

Related Passages

- **Ephesians 2**
- **James 2:14-26**
- **Romans 1:18-2:11**
- **Romans 5:6-11**

Conclusion

Spend time thinking about the opportunities you've had or currently have to disciple new believers or discuss faith with unbelievers. How does Paul's discussion of justification by grace and the importance of doing good works as a result of faith influence what you might say to each person? What do you think is important to communicate verbally and what might be better communicated nonverbally? Take time to write down your thoughts and reactions.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/saved-by-grace-now-what>

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