

20 April – 19 July, 2026

JOURNAL

2 Kings • Titus

THIS BELONGS TO:

CORNER
STONE.

Cornerstone Church
City | Fields | Campus



Deepening
our life
in Christ,
together



WELCOME

Volume One • Issue Two

How to use this journal

1. Personal devotions

Use this book to help you engage as you read or listen to your Bible each day. You will find a guide that will help you work through scriptures related to our sermon series. Scribble down your thoughts and questions, and remember to pray and ask God to speak to you by His Spirit, through His Word.

2. Growth Groups

Take this guide with you to your Growth Group each week. The Bible study questions are printed inside, and we have left space to write down comments, questions and prayer points that surface. We would love for you to be praying for those in your Growth Group throughout the week.

3. Sunday services

Keep this guide with your Bible and bring it to church each week. You can scribble down sermon notes in the space provided.

Term two programme

Week 1	20-26 April	2 Kings 11-12
Week 2	27 April-3 May	2 Kings 13:1-17:5
Week 3	4-10 May	2 Kings 17:6-41
Week 4	11-17 May	Isaiah 58
Week 5	18-24 May	2 Kings 18-19
Week 6	25-31 May	2 Kings 20
Week 7	1-7 June	Prayer & Praise Night (no daily notes)
Week 8	8-14 June	2 Kings 23:31-25:30
Week 9	15-21 June	Titus 1
Week 10	22-28 June	Titus 2
Week 11	29 June-5 July	Titus 3

20-26 April

DAILY BIBLE READING

1 & 2 Kings recap

1 Kings 11:1-13

→ What does the passage say is the reason for the Lord's anger with Solomon?

→ How did Solomon manage to get to a point where his heart turned away from the God who had blessed him so abundantly?

1 Kings 16:29-34

→ How does Ahab compare to the other kings of Israel?

→ What do we learn about our own idolatry from God's response to Ahab?

2 Kings 8:16-27

→ How is the king of Judah influenced by Ahab's family, and what does that lead to?

→ How have you seen others' sin (or your own) influence people and situations beyond what you expected?

 **2 Kings 9**

→ How does God respond to the sin of the kings of Israel and Judah?

→ What does God's justice show us about the seriousness of sin? How does that give us peace in a world of corrupt leaders?

 **2 Samuel 7:8-16**

→ What does God promise David about his kingdom and his descendants?

→ How does God's long-term promise give you confidence in uncertain situations?

Things I'm praying for:



20-26 April

GROWTH GROUP

2 Kings 11-12

Big idea: God faithfully restores his king and his temple.

Big application: Trust in God's faithfulness by living for his kingdom.

Pray

1. Divide into two groups to explore the context leading up to 2 Kings 11-12.
 - One group will create and present a family tree of the key people from the same span.
 - The other group will create and present a timeline of the key events from 2 Kings 8:16-10:36
2. How have the words of 2 Kings 8:18 played out over the section we've just looked at?
3. What do the words of 2 Kings 8:19 suggest about the future of Judah?



Read 2 Kings 11

4. Why do you think Joash was hidden in the temple?
5. Who is the hero of the coup, and why is that unusual?
6. How do we see God at work as the bigger hero of this story?
7. How does this episode fulfill God's promise in 2 Kings 8:18?



Read 2 Kings 12

8. What kind of king is Joash?
9. Why is it important to restore the temple?
10. What are the encouragements and discouragements about the temple restoration project?
11. Read 1 Kings 8:10-13. Did the Lord dwell in Solomon's (and Joash's) temple forever?
12. What does the temple look like today?

* Apply (pick one)

- What would it look like for you to value God's temple (the church)?
- How can we show that we trust God's plan to bring about his kingdom?
- When do you find it hard to trust in God's promises?
- What do these two episodes teach us about working faithfully in light of God's plans?

Notes

Prayer

- Praise God for preserving the line of David and ultimately fulfilling it in Jesus.
- Pray for hearts that are confident in God's long-term plan, even when things feel unstable.
- Thank God that he now dwells with his people by his Spirit, not in a building.
- Pray for a deeper love for the church, not just as a group of people, but as God's living temple.

Prayer for my group

- Pray for friends and family who don't know Jesus as their king, for opportunities to share the gospel or invite to *Taste & See* starting May 3.



Sunday 26 April

SERMON NOTES

2 Kings 11-12



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27 April-3 May

DAILY BIBLE READING

2 Kings 13:1-17:5



Read 2 Kings 13:1-9

- What is the trajectory of the Kingdom of Israel?

- Are unfaithful people out of reach of God's mercy?



Read 2 Kings 13:10-14:22

- What seeds of hope for Israel are planted by God?

- What is the trajectory of the Kingdom of Judah?



Read 2 Kings 14:23-15:12

- How does God show his faithfulness to both Israel and Judah?

- How does God judge both Israel and Judah?

 **Read 2 Kings 15:13-38**

→ What happens when God gives people over to the consequences of their sin?

 **Read 2 Kings 16:1-17:5**

→ Why is Ahaz's desecration of the Temple particularly evil?

→ What consequences does good or bad leadership have for the church?

 **Read Psalm 80**

→ How do we seek help for our nation, world, and church?

Things I'm praying for:



27 April-3 May

GROWTH GROUP

2 Kings 13:1-17:5

Big idea: God desires mercy for Israel even while he gives them over to judgement for their unfaithful leadership.

Big application: Trust in Jesus, God's mercy to sinners: our Good King and ultimate Elisha.

Top Trumps: 2 Kings edition

Leaders have a 'Top Trumps 2 Kings' printout with 13 kings in total. Split the kings up between pairs/threes.

Create your own Top Trumps cards and consider how well they score on the following criteria:

Reign Length Rating, 'Eyes of the Lord' Level, Idolatry Indicator, Prophet-Assisted Power, Military Might, Burial Benchmark

1. Share your cards in chronological order, explaining your ratings from the text.
2. What patterns do you notice between the kings?
3. What moments break the pattern for the Israelite kings?

Reread 13:4-6, 13:14-25, 14:26-27

4. Why does God show mercy to Israel? What is God showing about himself?
5. The saving power of Elisha is still at work even after he is dead. What hints does this give us about God's plan? (See also Ezekiel 37, John 5:24-29).
6. What happens to Israel after the promise to Jehu is fulfilled (from 15:13 onwards)?

Focus now on Judah

7. Do we have any reasons to be more optimistic about Judah?
8. Skimming back over Judah's kings, how do each of them go?

* Apply

1. What effect does bad leadership have on the church?
2. Read John 4:21-26 and 5:24-29. What hope does Jesus bring, even to a Samaritan woman whose ancestors were punished for unfaithfulness?
3. Make a Top Trump card together about Jesus. How does he score in each category?

Categories: Reign Length Rating, 'Eyes of the Lord' Level, Idolatry Indicator, Prophet-Assisted Power, Military Might, Burial Benchmark

Notes

Prayer

- Thank God for our Good King who does no evil in the eyes of the Lord.
- Thank God for the ultimate Elisha who brings ultimate resurrection from the dead.
- Thank God for his goodness even to unfaithful people.
- Thank God for hearing the cries of the needy, and blessing so far beyond what is deserved.
- Ask God for Christ-like leadership amongst us.
- Seek God's mercy for our church, our country, and our world.

Prayer for my group



Sunday 3 May

SERMON NOTES

2 Kings 13:1-17:5



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4-10 May

DAILY BIBLE READING

2 Kings 17:6-41



Read 2 Kings 17:6-41

This account in 2 Kings comes after reading about a series of kings who failed to lead Israel as they should have.

- Why might it be important to slow down in this chapter?

- Often we view God's anger as unnecessary or unkind. What does this chapter show us about God's love and persistence towards his people?

- As you read verses 7-23, how does remembering God's past grace deepen the tragedy of Israel's rejection?

- What are some ways God has shown grace to you in the past? How should remembering these things shape your response to him today?

- God demonstrated his faithfulness so decisively throughout Israel's history. Why do you think they continued to sin even after being guided and loved again and again?

- Although times have passed and cultures changed, how might we be susceptible to that same rejection and turning to sin?

- The passage describes God giving the law to Moses and sending prophets to warn his people again and again. What does this reveal about God's patience and desire for his people to return to him.

- How do you personally respond when God's word challenges, convicts or corrects you?

- What is the damage to God in this chapter, where judgement is rightly given?

- What is the damage to Israel in this chapter, where judgement is rightly given?

- What is the damage to us in this chapter, if we fall into living under rejection of God?
 - How does Christ offer us hope in this?

- How can you earnestly turn back to God, receive grace and be restored? What do you need to confess to God?

Things I'm praying for:



4-10 May

GROWTH GROUP

2 Kings 17:6-41

Big idea: If we reject God and true worship of him, we become worthless and are cut off in relationship from him. Rejection against a jealous God has consequences.

Big application: God is a jealous God who desires to have a people after his own heart.

Read 2 Kings 17:6-41

1. In pairs or individually look back over the passage and highlight some of the repeating words and sentences in this passage?
2. From those words and sentences what can we see are the big themes in this passage? What does God want the reader to be seeing and noticing?
3. After moving quickly through Israel's history in the last few chapters, why do you think the writer of 2 Kings slows down in Chapter 17?
4. There are five key things that Israel has done in their blatant rejection of God: misplaced worship, idolatry, evil, refusing to listen, rejecting God's saving grace. Spend some time looking for verses that give examples of their rejection.
5. God's anger has been aroused. Therefore he acts (vs 11 and 17). How has God shown his anger towards his people (vs. 20-24)?
6. Is God's anger just?
7. In verses 24-33 the King of Assyria brings in the nations to live among the Israelites; it is no longer Israel's land. What went wrong with his plan (vs. 26-28) and what was the solution he came up with (27-33)?
8. Why is God's judgement more harsh for the unholy Israelites than the unholy nations?
9. In what areas of our lives might we be tempted to be slow to confessing sin?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21

The phrase 'in him' is crucial here: it speaks to identity.

10. What encouragement is there from being 'in Christ' here?
11. What challenge is there from being 'in Christ' (think more widely than this passage).

* Apply

- Continue to reflect in the coming week and encourage patterns of confession to God.
- As we go out from study, how do you want to be daily turning earnestly back to Jesus?

Notes

Prayer

- Praise God that he sent his son Jesus so that we might be able to boldly approach the throne!
- Praise God that he has a sovereign plan and that we might be able to rest in the knowledge that we can trust him, though we don't always understand.
- God is a jealous God who desires a people after his own heart; pray that we would be people who are seeking God's heart.

Prayer for my group



Sunday 10 May

SERMON NOTES

2 Kings 17:6-41



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11-17 May

DAILY BIBLE READING

Isaiah 58



Read Isaiah 5:1-7

- The constant problem is a people who do not bear fruit for God. Read John 15:1-8. What confidence do you have that you will be any different from Israel? What would false confidence look like?



Read Isaiah 29:13

- Where is Israel failing? Where could you be expressing the same? Confess to God your heart that drifts so easily. Thank God for the gift of the Spirit! Pray for God to work in you by his Spirit to have a soft heart to God.



Read Matthew 22:34-40

- What is the summary of the law's demands? Where do you see a separation of love of God and love of neighbour in your life? Where do you see a coldness in your heart towards your neighbour? Confess the sin of coldness towards your neighbour to God.

 **Read Isaiah 1:11-17**

- False religion ignores the needy whereas fruitful religion seems to be particularly tied to care for the vulnerable in society. Think of one step you could take in this area and pray about it.

 **Read Ephesians 2:8-10**

- Our tradition tends to focus on protecting salvation by grace; in doing that - have we missed the framework of being saved FOR good deeds? In our thinking about the Christian life - have you become unbalanced? Pray for God to show you opportunities for good deeds today.

Things I'm praying for:



11-17 May

GROWTH GROUP

Isaiah 58



Read Isaiah 58:1-5

1. We'd normally be impressed by people who seek God and are eager to know his ways (v2). What's God's take on it in v1-5?
2. What response do the people hope for in v3? What does that tell you about their view of how relationship with God worked?
3. Integrity is about wholeness or unity in our character (as opposed to being double minded or two faced). What form does Israel's lack of integrity take? (vv1-5)
4. In pairs, choose one New Testament passage from the list below and identify connections with Isaiah 58:1-5:
 - Luke 3:7-14
 - Acts 2:42-47
 - Acts 4:32-35
 - James 1:27
 - James 2:14-17



Read Isaiah 58:6-14

5. What practices define the 'fasting' God has chosen?
6. If Isaiah was speaking to our society what things might he pick on?
7. What promises does God make if Israel lives this way?



Read Isaiah 59:1-4

Isaiah 59-60 shows Israel's inability to fulfil Isaiah 58 and that God himself will provide the solution.

8. Israel is described as a vine in Isaiah 5, so when Jesus says "I am the TRUE vine" (John 15:1), he is claiming to be faithful, obedient Israel. What examples can you think of him fulfilling Isaiah 58?
9. What danger is there in moving from Isaiah 58 to us without thinking about the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Clue: "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

* Apply

- In Jesus WE are called to bear fruit (John 15:5). What opportunities do you have for bearing fruit in:
- Your family
 - Your community
 - Your work

Notes

Prayer

- Ask God to make you fruitful.
- Ask God to make you one whole person, not double minded or two faced.
- Thank God that Jesus makes us fruitful for his service.

Prayer for my group



Sunday 17 May

SERMON NOTES

Isaiah 58



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18-24 May

DAILY BIBLE READING

2 Kings 18-19



Read 2 Kings 18:1-19:19



Read Psalm 1

- What are the similarities between the description of the blessed one in Psalm 1 and the summary of Hezekiah's life in 2 Kings 18:1-8?

- What are the arguments that Sennacherib's field commander uses to convince Hezekiah and his people to surrender?

- How much of a threat does Assyria appear to be?

- What is Hezekiah's response?

 **Read 2 Kings 19:19-37**

 **Read Psalm 2**

→ How does God respond to the mockery and lies of Sennacherib?

→ How much of a threat is Assyria to God?

→ For whose sake does God save Jerusalem?

→ For whose sake does God save us?

Things I'm praying for:



GROWTH GROUP

2 Kings 18-19

Big idea: Israel's greatest kings trust wholeheartedly in God

Big application: Follow the lead of your King, trust in Him alone.



Read 2 Kings 18-19

1. Imagine you had the job of turning this passage into a screenplay, how would you break it up into scenes?

Section 1: Hezekiah's introduction (18:1-8)

2. What makes Hezekiah unique among the other Kings of Israel and Judah?
- What is the significance of destroying the snake in v4?

Section 2: The threat (18:9-16)

3. As discussed in the last 2 Kings study and summarised here, what happened to Israel when they rebelled against Assyria?
4. What is Hezekiah's first response to the Assyrian threat?
- Is it effective?

Section 3: The first attack and response (18:17-19:8)

5. How does Sennacherib's first proclamation (18:19-25 and 31-35) attempt to undermine the people's trust in Hezekiah and God?
6. What is the response of:
- The people?
 - Hezekiah?
 - God (through Isaiah)?

Section 4: The second attack and response (19:9-37)

7. How does Sennacherib's second proclamation (19:10-13) attempt to undermine Hezekiah's trust in God?

8. What is the response this time from:

- a. Hezekiah?
- b. God (through Isaiah, and through the angel of the Lord)?
- c. What is the tone of God's response?
- d. Why is God's reason for saving Jerusalem in v34 comforting?

9. What are the similarities between Hezekiah's back and forth with the King of Assyria, and Jesus' temptation from Satan in Luke 4?

* Apply

10. We're often tempted to see ourselves as the main character of a story, but who in this story best represents us? What can we learn from them?

11. Discuss the pressures you face that might tempt you to trust or worship something other than God (be it hard work, money, yourself, people). What would it look like to trust wholeheartedly in your King Jesus?

Notes

Prayer

- Thank God that He gave us a faithful King who we can trust completely.
- Confess where you're tempted to give in to the pressures of the world.
- Ask that God would give us the strength to stand firm and trust Him.

Prayer for my group



Sunday 24 May

SERMON NOTES

2 Kings 18-19



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25-31 May

DAILY BIBLE READING

2 Kings 20

Numbered days



Read 2 Kings 20:1-7

- How would you respond if you were told you had limited time left? What does Hezekiah's response show you?

- What does this passage reveal about God's control over your life and your days? How does that make you feel?

Time belongs to God



Read 2 Kings 20:8-11

- What does the sign of the shadow going backwards show you about who God is?

- If God truly rules over time, how should that shape the way you view your past, present and future?

Time given for a purpose



Read 2 Kings 20:1-11 & 2 Samuel 7:12-16

- Why does it matter that God preserves the life of the king in David's line?

- How does knowing that God is working out his purposes over time change the way you think about the time you've been given?

Living in the time you're given

Read 2 Kings 20:12-15 & 2 Chronicles 32

- What do you notice about Hezekiah's response to the Babylonian envoys? What questions does it raise for you?

- How does 2 Chronicles add to your understanding?

Time extended, time limited

Read 2 Kings 20:16-21, 2 Peter 3:8-10 & Acts 17:30-31

- What tension do you see between God extending time (mercy) and declaring future judgement?

- How should living in this kind of "now, but not yet" shape your priorities and urgency?

Things I'm praying for:

Thank God for the time he has given you. Ask for a heart that trusts his timing, and uses each day in light of eternity.



GROWTH GROUP

2 Kings 20

Big idea: The Lord is the ruler of time. He mercifully extends it and justly limits it.

Big application: Use the time God has given you to seek him and live for him.



Read 2 Kings 20

1. What happens when Hezekiah is told he will die?
2. What do we learn about God from this interaction?
3. What's significant about the sign of the short shadow? What does it show about God?
4. How is God's mercy to Hezekiah also a mercy to the nation? (vv.5-6)
5. What happens when the Babylonian envoys visit?
6. What does Isaiah say will happen in the future?
7. How do the two halves of this chapter fit together?
 - What do they teach us about how God works in time?
8. How does God's control of time in this passage compare with how we experience God's timing under King Jesus today? What is similar, and what is different?



Read 2 Peter 3:9 & Acts 17:31

9. How should we respond to this?

* Apply (pick one or two questions to discuss)

- What warning is there for people who assume 'there's still plenty of time'?
- What about for someone who assumes 'everything will continue as things are'?
- What warning is there for you?
- When are you most tempted to assume you'll have more time later?
- What do you think you are currently "putting off" spiritually? Why?

- How does this passage shape how we think about repentance?
- How does it shape the urgency of the Christian life?

*** In pairs**

- How are you currently using your time to seek God?
- What would you like to change?

Notes

Pray for one another to:

- Encourage each other towards faithfulness.
- Live with eternal perspective.
- Use time intentionally for God's purposes.



Sunday 31 May

SERMON NOTES

2 Kings 20



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Sunday 7 June

SERMON NOTES

2 Kings 21:1-23:20



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→ What does this teach us about the end of persistent sinning?

→ Yet what star of hope is seen shining in the closing verses of the book? cf. Samuel 7:14, 15.

Things I'm praying for:



8-14 June

GROWTH GROUP

2 Kings 23:31-25:30

Big idea: Judah fell because God was judging the sin of its leaders.

Big application: Learn from God's judgement of Judah, and cling to his promises now.

1. Look at each section and fill out the below table.

Passage	Leader	Family/ background	Age at start	Length of rule	Installed by	Evaluation	Key events	Fate
23:31-35								
23:36- 24:7								
24:8-17								
24:18- 25:21								
25:22-26								

2. What's similar and different between these rulers?

3. Track the progression of the fate of God's temple and his people throughout these chapters. What does it show us about what's happening in Judah?

4. How are the prospects looking for God's promises (cf. 2 Sam 7:10-16), and for his chosen people at this stage in Judah's history?

5. God's anger is a terrifying prospect. Why does his judgement come upon his own people?

6. How do you feel hearing God judging his own people and driving them from his presence? Why does God record these events for us?

 **Read 2 Kings 25:27-31 & Matthew 1:10-16**

7. At the very end of the book, we get a faint glimmer of hope for God's promises and his people. What is the ultimate fate of God's promises to David?

8. 2 Kings is written to God's people living in exile; in the awkward in-between state where God's promises haven't yet come to fruition. How does this glimmer of hope give us hope in our in-between state, while we wait for the return of Christ?

 **Read Hebrews 1:8-9**

9. What confidence can we have living under Jesus' kingship, rather than the kings of Judah?

10. Just like Judah, we follow the lead of our king. Since we now live under an eternal and righteous king, our values should reflect the kingdom values. Where will this play out for you in your priorities this week?

Notes

Prayer



Sunday 14 June

SERMON NOTES

2 Kings 23:31-25:30



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15-21 June

DAILY BIBLE READING

Titus 1



Read Titus 1:1-4

- Who are the author and recipient? What are their roles and credentials?
- What motivates Paul?
- How does the hope of eternal life encourage you in your day-day life and ministry to others?



Read Titus 1:5-9

- What is Titus' task?
- What qualifications are described as requirements in local church leaders?
- Paul focuses on character, rather than role description. Why is character important?
- How does godly leadership encourage you in your Christian walk?



Read Titus 1:10-16

- What challenges does the local church in Crete face?
- How is the stereotypical Cretan described in vs 12? Do you ever see such traits in our modern society?
- Why should Christians act differently from the culture around them?



Read 2 Peter 1:5-7

- Who is Peter's audience?
- What overlap do the characteristics have with Titus 1:5-9?
- Why does Titus 1 specifically concern the character of leaders?



Read Psalm 25

- What is the relationship between faith and godliness in this Psalm?
- How are you cultivating a humble and teachable spirit before God?

Things I'm praying for:



GROWTH GROUP

Titus 1

Big idea: Local church leaders are to be characterised by actions and teaching that encourages those they lead to hold to sound doctrine.

Big application: Sit under leaders of godly character and life; seek godliness in your own character and life.



Read Titus 1

1. To get a feel for the context of the letter:
 - a. Who are the author and recipient? The apostle Paul a 'servant of God', to Titus his "true son in our common faith."
 - b. What are their roles and motivations with respect to the local churches they are serving?
2. In verses 1-9 we see Paul laying out qualifications for appointment of elders/ overseers for the local christian community in each town. How does Paul frame the:
 - a. Job description
 - b. Qualifications
 - c. Motivations
3. From vs 9-16, why is it important that the leaders have the characteristics given in vs 5-9? (Have you ever seen for yourself the effect of false teaching on someone else's faith?)
4. What characteristics are Cretans known for according to their own philosophers?
 - a. What might such charges reveal about the priorities of the general Cretan culture?
 - b. How might our own western culture betray similar characteristics and priorities?
5. How does Titus 1 reveal the gospel of grace?

6. Think through the following scenarios. How does this passage encourage you?
- a. You (or a friend) are looking for a new church after moving city. What do you look for?
 - b. There's various ways that different church traditions appoint various types of local congregational leaders. How might Titus 1 shape the priorities of those who have a say in the process?
7. Read Galatians 5:13-14, 22-26. How are the elder qualifications in Titus 1 similar or different?
- Why then is Paul explicit in describing these qualifications in Titus 1 for leaders?
8. In pairs: Think of the various roles and relationships you have, specifically as a Christian role model.
- a. How does Titus 1 change the way you think about these roles or relationships?
 - b. What can you pray about?
9. Reflect on the character of your Christian walk right now. Would you feel confident inviting someone to 'watch me' as you continue in this walk?
- a. If No, who might you 'watch' and pray with?
 - b. If yes, who could you invite to 'watch you' as you persevere and grow in faith?

Notes

Prayer



Sunday 21 June

SERMON NOTES

Titus 1



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Read Titus 2:11-14

→ What reasons are here given why a Christian should live differently?

→ What should they give up?

→ How should they now live?

→ How far is this true of you?

Things I'm praying for:



GROWTH GROUP

Titus 2

Big idea: Healthy teaching creates a healthy church community—this ensures the gospel can be received by all.

Big application: Live a life that points to the goodness of God’s salvation.

 **Read Titus 2**

1. What words are repeated in the passage?
2. What does the word ‘appropriate’ communicate about Titus’ teaching in v.1?
3. Divide into groups and examine different groups of people in the passage and ask:
 - a. what are the separate commands to this group
 - b. why they are to behave in this way

Group	What	Why
Older men		
Older women		
Younger men		
Slaves		

4. What things are common among these lists?
5. How does v. 11 relate to the ‘why’s you noted earlier about the character of the different social groups Titus is to teach?

- 6. What does Paul mean when he reminds Titus that the grace of God teaches us to say 'no'?
- 7. What are Christians waiting for?
- 8. How does the concept of 'waiting' in v. 13 relate to the characteristics Paul urges Titus to teach above?
- 9. How does v. 14 protect us from legalism in living up to the sound doctrine in vv. 3-10?

*** Apply**

- 10. Go through the list of what is appropriate to sound doctrine in vv. 2-10. Discuss how the gospel helps us say no to ungodliness in these areas.
- 11. What would it look like for our character to bear witness to God's grace in:
 - Our workplaces
 - Our classes
 - Our households
 - Our friendships
 - Our Growth Groups

Notes

Prayer

- Pray for the characteristics in the passage to be visible at Cornerstone.
- Pray for those watching us in our communities – that we might be a visible sign of God's grace.
- Pray that we would turn to God's grace as the power to say no to ungodliness.
- Thank God that in his Son we have purification, and a sure and blessed hope for the future, even in these present times.



Sunday 28 June

SERMON NOTES

Titus 2



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29 June – 5 July

DAILY BIBLE READING

Titus 3

The redeemed worth of humanity and our good works

From the very beginning, God designed work as a good gift. Work was never meant to be a burden or a curse. It was meant to be a way we participate in God's care for His world and bear his image—his goodness—in this world. A cursed person is dead and produces evil works. But God, in his mercy, makes the dead live again. As a renewed person, my work is redeemed and can now be profitable for everyone. How incredible!

Day 1

 **Read Genesis 1:26, 31, 2:15, 22-23**

→ Reflect on the wonder of humanity.

 **Read Titus 3:3**

→ How far have we fallen? How would you describe humanity outside the garden in a word?

→ How does Romans 3:10-13 speak of humanity? How would this passage describe us in a word?

→ Where do I see these descriptions in myself?

Father, forgive me when I treat this world and my work as my own little kingdom and bring about harm. Help me to understand how degraded humanity became from the worth you had given us. May every task I have before me today be done as an act of worship.

Day 2



Read Titus 3:4-7

- How much worth has humanity been given? List the things that show our worth

- How was this brought about?

- How can it be that the Holy One indwells me?

Heavenly Father, thank you that I have become the dwelling place of your Spirit. What an incredible redemptive work you have done to make my life ornate, beautiful, holy and so worthy of Your presence, just as it was in Solomon's temple. May every task I have before me today be done as an act of worship.

Day 3



Meditate on Titus 3:4-9

- What new identity and purpose do we have?



Read John 3:1-15

- What is the joy of the words 'rebirth'? Try listing all the benefits it brings

- How does knowing my life is indestructible change the way I face today?

Heavenly Father, thank you that I have been given rebirth, a new life that is indestructible. Thank you that I am now an heir waiting to inherit eternal life and the kingdom. What a home to inherit where all evil is gone. May every task I have before me today be done as an act of worship.

Day 4

Read Titus 3:4-9, 3:14, & Ephesians 2:10

- What have we been saved for?

- Consider the wisdom found in these Proverbs on doing good. How can you live the renewed life filled by the Spirit?
 - Proverbs 3:27-28, 11:25, 14:21

- What good works has God prepared for me today?

Heavenly Father, thank you that I have been given rebirth, a new beginning and that I can now work in this world to bring good and bear your image to all. Teach me to provide and care for those around me. I acknowledge you have not withheld any good thing from me. May every task I have before me today be done as an act of worship.

Day 5

Meditate on Titus 3:8,14

- Glean these Proverbs for wisdom on how to do what is excellent and profitable. List the different ways they might apply and the good it brings: Proverbs 12:11, 24, 13:4, 11:10-11, 14:23, 21:5, 22:29, 27:23-27

- Nothing done in Christ is small. Do you see each task of your day as something profitable, excellent, and able to bring good?

- Evaluate each of your own roles in life for doing what is good and profitable, which demonstrates the worth of humanity.

Heavenly Father, I offer my body as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to you. Teach me to work with diligence, integrity, and joy. Use my ordinary efforts to bless others, lift our communities, and reflect Your goodness in the world. May every task I have before me today be done as an act of worship.

GROWTH GROUP

Titus 3

Big idea: In light of your rebirth and renewal, be devoted to what is good while you await eternal life.

Big application: Let your words, interactions, work, be productive in bringing good to everyone



Read Titus 3

Changed behaviour: v1-3, 9

1. How does the old self compare with our new direction from v1-3 and v9? Explain each phrase in your own words.
2. Paul reminds believers to “be subject to rulers and authorities.” In Romans 13 he explains that governing authorities are established by God and serve as instruments of his justice, restraining evil and promoting order.

What do Christians display to the watching world when we willingly obey governing authorities?

3. Paul describes our pre-Christian condition as a kind of slavery. Did you see your own life before Christ in those terms or see unbelievers this way now? Why/Why not?
4. Which of these three values—personal freedom, self-determination, or suspicion of authority—most shapes how people respond to rulers and authority? Which shapes you the most?

Foundation for changed behavior: v4-8

5. What is the inner nature of God on display here?
6. How has God been devoted to our good?
7. What is the foundation for a transformed life, one devoted to good and able to follow the commands of Paul in v1-2?
8. What other foundations for obedience, besides the gospel, do you find yourself slipping into, and why will these ultimately fail?

9. Consider the impacts of people whose lives are transformed. What difference does it make? Think about the good the passage describes, and what general wisdom tells us is good for human flourishing.

- a. personally (physically, mentally, relationally)
- b. In church
- c. In society (productivity and flourishing).

Devotion: v8-15


10. What is the nature of devotion (v8-15)? Why use this word rather than 'do good'?

11. Reflect personally:

- a. In your current occupation or focus of your time:
 - What capacity is there to bring good to this world, to work in such a way people benefit or profit?
 - How does sin affect your work (paid or unpaid)? What aspects could have a negative impact on others?
- b. Discuss this quote and Proverb below in light of Paul's call to "devote yourselves to good works" (Titus 3:8, 14). How do these ideas help us understand what "doing good" looks like in ordinary work and everyday life?
 - "The Christian shoemaker does his duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes, because God is interested in good craftsmanship." (often attributed to Martin Luther)
 - "When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices; when the wicked perish, there are shouts of joy. Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is destroyed." (Proverbs 11:10-11)

Notes

Prayer



Sunday 5 July

SERMON NOTES

Titus 3



Scan to
fill out a
Contact
Card

Sunday 12 July

SERMON NOTES

Sunday 19 July

SERMON NOTES



Scan to
fill out a
Contact
Card

WHAT'S ON

cornerstone.org.nz/whatson

**Registration required*

Taste & See*

3-24 May

Invite friends, family and colleagues to explore the timeless message of Jesus over good food, good company and good conversation.

*4 weeks on Sundays
Lunch or dinner*

Prayer & Praise Night

2 June

Join us for an evening of prayer & singing with your brothers and sisters from City, Fields, and Campus Church. Make the most of one of the few times in the year where we get to gather as one church!

More details to come.

Mid-Year Conference*

8-12 July

For Campus Churchers: a few days away to step out of the noise, hear God's word, and get clear on guidance, decisions, and how God actually guides us.

Wainui, Banks Peninsula

City Men

30 May

A space for guys at City Church to connect and develop friendships with brothers at church.

Men's Retreat*

3-4 July

Greg Lee will give three talks on 'the weight of the world', helping guys navigate their responsibilities under God.


Big Ideas Night: Artificial Intelligence—Wisdom in an Age of Machines

11 May

AI isn't a future idea—it's already shaping how we think, create, and relate. As it grows more powerful, the questions get sharper: what is it for, what should we trust it with, and how do we use it without losing something deeply human?

Join us for a Big Ideas Night on AI ethics, exploring how a Christian vision of wisdom, responsibility, and humanity speaks into this space.

*7.30 pm
Riccarton High School staff room*



"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

MATTHEW 11:28-30

