



YRML: **TITUS PREP BOOK**

Name: _____

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Youth RML Calendar 2025-26

September	10	Welcome Party & YRML begins
	29	Prayer Supper
October	22	Guest Event
	27	Prayer Supper
	29	No RML (Half Term)
November	24	Prayer Supper
December	17	Christmas Dinner
January	7	First RML of term
	26	Prayer Supper
	28	No RML
	30 – 1	Bruncion weekend
February	18	No RML (Half Term)
	23	Prayer Supper
March	25	Easter Guest Event
	30	Prayer Supper
April	22	First RML of term
	27	Prayer Supper + APCM
May	20	No RML (Week of Events)
	27	No RML (Half Term)
June	1	Prayer Supper
	29	Prayer Supper
July	1	Summer party

Welcome to YRML—Titus!

It is our prayer that through the months ahead, we will be excited, challenged and changed by God as He speaks to us through these three books.

This study manual is designed to help you get the most out of the coming year.

How to use this study manual...



Preparation – although it may be new to you, we hope this year will demonstrate how big a difference it makes to carefully read and think about a passage before meeting up to study it together



Study Toolkit – to help us hear God’s voice more clearly for ourselves, there are various tools which will be introduced throughout the year. There’s a summary of the basic toolkit on pages 5+6.



Space – there’s lots of space to fill in answers to prep questions, or to note down any truths you discover during the year about Jesus & why He came.

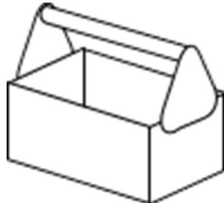
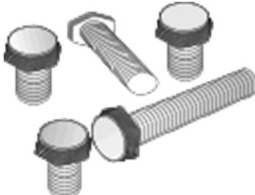
There will be many opportunities to grow in your knowledge and love of God as we look at this book together. We pray that you will make the most of them and that you will know and experience for yourself what it means to follow King Jesus.

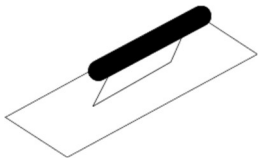
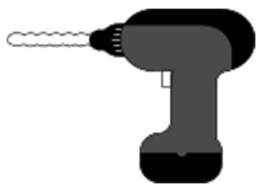
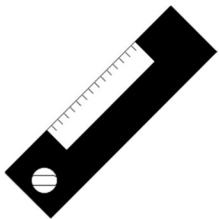
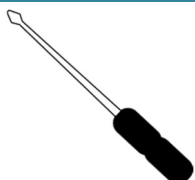
A Basic Bible Study Toolkit

Recommended reading: *Dig Deeper: Tools to Unearth the Bible's Treasure*, Nigel Beynon and Andrew Sach (IVP, 2005), available in the YRML library!



WARNING. We're going to talk about 'tools', but *just* as a way of helping each other to listen. We don't want to imply that Bible study is some sort of 'mechanical' process. It's a *relational* process, whereby we listen attentively as God speaks to us.

	Author's Purpose Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i> , chapter 2. The biggest question we can ever ask of a passage in the Bible is simply: why did the author write this?
	Context Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i> , chapter 3. Words come within sentences, sentences in paragraphs, paragraphs in chapters, chapters in sections... Rip something out of context and you'll miss what Paul is saying.
	Structure Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i> , chapter 4. How has Paul broken down his material into sections? How do these sections fit together?
	Linking Words Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i> , chapter 5. Whenever you see a 'therefore' ask what it's there for. And the same goes for words like 'because', 'so that', 'for' etc.
	Vocabulary Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i> , chapter 8. Mostly you can find what words mean by looking them up in a dictionary. But be alert in case Paul is using a familiar word in a special or unusual way.
	Translations Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i> , chapter 9. Check passages across different translations. If there are important differences, try to find out more.

	Tone and Feel Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i>, chapter 10. As we come to the Bible, we should not only pay attention to the point that is being made, but also how it is being made. What feelings does the passage evoke?
	Repetition Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i>, chapter 11. Sometimes Paul says something more than once to make sure we don't miss it. Sometimes Paul says something more than once to make sure we don't miss it. Look for repetition.
	Quotation / Allusion Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i>, chapter 12. When Paul quotes or alludes to another part of the Bible, we should look up the original context of his quotation. What connection is Paul making?
	Genre Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i>, chapter 13. There are many types of genre in the Bible – songs, prophecies, proverbs, laments, visions, speeches, parables, historical narrative. Identifying the genre is very important to how we interpret a passage.
	Copycat Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i>, chapter 14. Is Paul holding up one of his characters as someone we should imitate or whose likeness we should avoid?
	The 'Who am I?' Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i>, chapter 16. With which character (if any) does Paul intend us to identify ourselves?
	'So What?' Tool	<i>Dig Deeper</i>, chapter 17. What difference does this make to my life? How will it work out in particular situations I am facing at the moment?

Titus: A Real Letter to a Real Person!



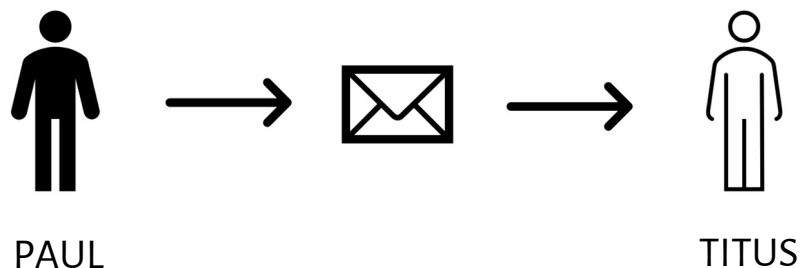
When we are reading letters in the Bible, we want to ask some basic questions to help us understand what's going on.

Who? – who is writing? Who are they writing to?

Where and When? – what's the context? What's prompted the letter?

Why are they writing? – what's the author of the letter trying to accomplish?

So, what about this letter to Titus?



This letter was written around **AD66**. **Paul** (based either in Macedonia or Ephesus) is writing to **Titus**, who is on **Crete**, an island off the coast of Greece.



So what about us?



“Who am I?” Tool

With which character (if any) does Paul intend us to identify ourselves?

The easiest mistake to make in reading the Bible is identifying with the wrong character. We are not usually the hero of the story! **This is a particularly important tool when we are reading letters, because they are directly addressed to someone who isn't us!**

Sometimes this is really obvious, like in 3:12:

¹²When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.

We probably know that Paul isn't telling **us** to head to modern-day Greece some time this winter.

But other times it's harder. Take a look at 2:1:

¹But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine.

Is this a direct instruction to us, or not? Should we identify with Titus, or someone else?

How to use this tool

ASK: Is there anything about the characters in the passage which make them special (e.g. apostles)? Is there anything in the passage that shows it applies to everyone, or to a particular group of people?

In the **Old Testament** particularly, some individuals serve as pictures showing us what Jesus would be like, rather than examples for us to follow. In the **letters** we will study this year (1 + 2 Timothy, or Titus), Paul is writing to a church leader. So sometimes the instructions might be more *directly* applicable to the person who leads our church, rather than to us. That being said, these letters are still God's word to the whole church, and so they have lots to say to us!

STUDY 1: Titus 1:1-4

1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, ²in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began ³and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior; ⁴To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Pray Ask for God's help to hear him speak as you read the passage.
Read Read through the passage a couple of times slowly.

Below are the different people mentioned in this introduction. What do we learn about each person/group?

Paul

Titus

The elect

God

Christ

Try and put this line (v1) in your own words: '...for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness'.

BONUS: Titus is not a very long book! Why not try and read through the whole letter and note down any big ideas or themes you spot.

STUDY 2: Titus 1:5-16

⁵This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you—⁶if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. ⁷For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, ⁸but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. ⁹He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. ¹⁰For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. ¹¹They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. ¹²One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." ¹³This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. ¹⁶They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

Pray Ask for God's help to hear him speak as you read the passage.
Read Read through the passage a couple of times slowly.



**Author's Purpose
Tool**

Dig Deeper, chapter 2.

The biggest question we can ever ask of a passage in the Bible is simply: why did the author write this?

What clues do we get about why Paul is writing this letter to Titus?

What do we learn about Crete (where Titus is)?

How does Paul's description of what to look for in an elder compare to the culture in Crete? Why might that be important?

STUDY 3: Titus 2:1-10

2 But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. ²Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. ³Older women likewise are to be reverent in behaviour, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. ⁶Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. ⁷Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. ⁹Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour.

Pray Ask for God's help to hear him speak as you read the passage.
Read Read through the passage a couple of times slowly.

What different types of people are addressed in this passage? What different instructions are they given?

What clues does Paul give as to why living this way matters?

Hint: use the linking words tool!



**Linking Words
Tool**

Dig Deeper, chapter 5.

Whenever you see a 'therefore' ask what it's there for. And the same goes for words like 'because', 'so that', 'for' etc.

What would it be like if everyone at school lived like this?

STUDY 4: Titus 2:11-15

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. ¹⁵Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Pray Ask for God's help to hear him speak as you read the passage.
Read Read through the passage a couple of times slowly.

Here Paul gives a little summary of the gospel. Have a go at filling in this table with the different aspects he mentions.

PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE

What have we learned about the gospel? What are we saved for?

What things in the passage might we want to thank God for?

STUDY 5: Titus 3:1-15

3 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, ²to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarrelling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. ³For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people. ⁹But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. ¹⁰As for a person who stirs

up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, ¹¹knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned. ¹²When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. ¹³Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. ¹⁴And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful. ¹⁵All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

Pray Ask for God's help to hear him speak as you read the passage.
Read Read through the passage a couple of times slowly.



'So What?' Tool

Dig Deeper, chapter 17.

What difference does this make to my life? How will it work out in particular situations I am facing at the moment?

Paul gives lots of instructions in this passage!
Have a read through with a pen, and underline things he thinks the Cretans **should do**, put stars beside things they **should avoid**.

Here we have some more teaching on godliness. How is it similar to chapter 2? How is it different?

Why does Paul think Christians can live like this? (v4-7)

We also have another little summary of the gospel (v4-7). How is it similar to the one in 2:11-15? How is it different?

Tools explained...



“So what?” Tool

What difference does this make to my life?
How will it work out in particular situations
I’m facing at the moment?

Once we’ve worked out *why* the author wrote this part of the Bible (the ‘Author’s purpose’), we should think about what that might look like for us.

How to use it

With the author’s purpose in our minds, we should think how it affects our head, heart and hands...

- HEAD - What difference should that make to my *thinking*? Should it change the way I view God? The world? Myself?
- HEART – What difference should that make to the way I *feel*? Should it change what I care about, or how much I care about it?
- HANDS – What difference should that make to the way I *act*? Should I start doing something? Should I stop doing something?

Example

Back in John chapter 2, we saw that Jesus was Bridegroom, the Messiah who had been promised in Old Testament passages such as Isaiah 25 or Amos 9.

That might not make a big difference to the way I eat my breakfast tomorrow morning, but it should make a huge difference to my...

- Head: Instead of thinking of him as someone who has just come to deal with my felt needs or give us an example to follow, I should view him as the King who has come to establish an amazing kingdom
- Heart: This passage shows how significant Jesus’ arrival is, which means I should care more about what he is doing than anything else in the world!
- Hands: If he’s that important, what will I devote my time, money & energy towards?

For more information, see *Dig Deeper*, chapter 17.

Titus Review

It's time to review the letter to Titus! Why not take some time this half term to sit down and read it in one go and think through these questions?

Look back at Paul's introduction in 1:1-4. We thought about the ideas of '**knowledge of the truth**, which accords with **godliness**'. What have you learned about both truth and godliness?

Write down one thing that you have learnt about Jesus/the gospel that you hadn't seen so clearly before.

What have you learnt for which you are *thankful*?

This is a letter written to a church leader...

What would you like to *ask* God for in light of Titus for our church/church leaders?

For ourselves? (How has the letter changed you? How would you like it to change you more in your thinking? In your living?)

Why not spend a few minutes now talking to God, expressing your thanks for what you have seen of him, and asking for his help this year to live in the light of it?

Bonus: memorise 2:11-14/3:3-7

Youth RML Prayer Partner:



Here are some prayer points from **Joelle Kenny**, our mission partner based in Ratanakiri in rural Cambodia. She runs Bible studies for women, and also youth groups in some of the local villages.

- Pray for **rest and refreshment** both physically and spiritually as I take a break from ministry after having dengue fever. Pray that my energy and appetite would return quickly. Pray I would be encouraged in God's word during this break.
- Praise God for the **women's group** in Ochum and Krala, both enjoying studying Marks gospel. As Krala village has a few new believers, pray studying Mark would help them get to know Jesus more clearly and have a correct understanding of the gospel.
- Pray for Vanny, a boy from Ochum youth group hoping to head off the Bible college next month and one of our dorm girls hoping to go and study nursing. Pray they pass their final school exams so that they can continue these worthwhile career paths.
- Pray **for Ochum youth group** studying Acts, that Paul's commitment to serving God despite many hardships would be an inspiration to them. Pray they would get better at speaking up during the Bible studies and contributing.
- Pray the students would not be tempted whilst back home in their villages for the next two months. Pray they would be a witness to those around them in how they conduct themselves and in their conversation.



- Pray for the young ladies who we meet with on Tuesday nights in my home. Most have returned to their villages for the long school holidays. Pray their time back home would not be a time of backsliding. Pray they would continue to read the Bible and feed themselves spiritually and be a good example to those around them.
- Pray for **Sinet**, our female youth leader at Ochum village. For many years she and her elderly father have lived in the church because they have no home of her own. Last week we found a small house for her to rent and helped her pay the first two months in advance. Paying rent will be hard for her, as money is very tight, so please pray she can make the payments. Pray also that having some space from the church is refreshing so that she is able to serve the church and the youth more wholeheartedly.

