

Focused Living 50[©]

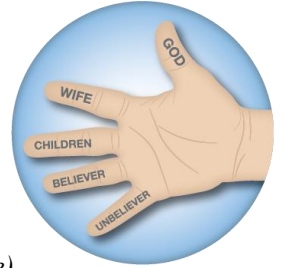
Fall 2025 Reading Plan

Titus

- **Titus** *Read the entire book in one sitting* How would I describe the tone of the letter? What is one verse or truth that gripped my heart? What's one thing I know I need to apply even from this first reading?
- **Titus 1:1-9** *Am I living a life that is above reproach and blameless? That phrase "above reproach" or "blameless" (:6, 7) isn't referring to a sinless and perfect life, but to a personal life that is beyond legitimate accusation and public scandal. Am I the same man in private that I am in public? Where would I consider myself a public success but a private failure?*
- **Titus 1:10-2:10** *As humans we are constantly being shaped and formed by what we read/watch/listen to, etc. What are the messages or influences that are shaping me? My family? Can I identify any messages or influences that I need to challenge or remove from my life or my home (1:10-11)? In what ways does my life currently confirm, or contradict, my claim to be a disciple of Jesus (1:16)? Where have I seen God grow me in the areas of self-control, patience, and sound faith (2:2)? Where do I still need growth?*
- **Psalms 1** *"What does this psalm reveal about God's character? What insight into following God does this Psalm give to me? How do I relate to the emotions expressed in this psalm? How might this psalm shift my perspective on my current life situation or challenges? What truths in this psalm can I use in my worship or prayer life today?"*
- **Titus 2:11-15** *How has God's grace personally shaped my life, not just in salvation, but in everyday growth and transformation (:11-13)? In what areas of my life am I trying to earn God's approval rather than living in the grace that He's already given? Where am I currently feeling the tension between the culture (worldly passions) and godly living (:12)? What rhythms or habits am I currently embracing to train myself towards godly living? What specific "good works" is God calling me to pursue right now in my family, church, community, or workplace (:14)?*
- **Titus 3:1-7** *This section of Titus is a beautiful summary of the good news of what God has done on our behalf. What aspect of the gospel described in these verses grips my heart today? As I reflect on my life before Christ, what attitudes or habits has He saved me from (:3)? How does remembering that I was saved by God's mercy—not by my good behavior—affect the way I view myself and others? What evidence of the Holy Spirit's renewal do I see in my life right now (:5)? What would it look like for me to rely more fully on the renewing work of the Spirit in my life rather than relying on my own strength to change/grow? Take some time to write out a prayer of gratitude to God for His goodness and lovingkindness.*
- **Titus 3:8-15** *What do "good works" look like in my current season of life—in my family, church, community, workplace (:8, 14)? Where do I sense God prompting me to engage more deeply? (think Key Relationships) What distracts me from being fully devoted to "good works?" How can I guard my conversations from becoming a source of division (:9)? Who are the brothers in Christ that I am walking closely with right now (:12-13)? How can we continue to cultivate deeper spiritual friendships that lead toward fruitfulness (:14)?*
- **Psalms 19** *What does this psalm reveal about God's character? What insight into following God does this Psalm give to me? How do I relate to the emotions expressed in this psalm? How might this psalm shift my perspective on my current life situation or challenges? What truths in this psalm can I use in my worship or prayer life today?"*

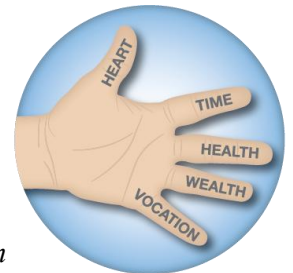
Key Relationships

- ☐ **Malachi 1:6-14 (God)** *As the object of a GREAT rescue, am I giving God my best? In what ways do my words, attitude, or actions dishonor God?*
- ☐ **1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:7-12 (Family Like)** *Don't I want to be around people with these love qualities? What do the people interacting with me, like my wife, experience?*
- ☐ **Proverbs 20:7; Deut. 6:5-9 (Family Like)** *When it comes to parenting, the days are long but the years are short. Is my "walk" and "talk" leading my children (or others close to me) toward God or away from Him?*
- ☐ **Romans 15:23-24, 32 (w/Believer)** *In what ways will a believing friend of mine find rest, refreshment, and help in my presence this season?*
- ☐ **1 Corinthians 10:27-11:1 (w/unbeliever)** *Paul modeled and taught the principle of "moving toward" those not yet believing." What does this currently look like in my life? Am I glorifying God in my outreach?*



Key Resources

- ☐ **Proverbs 3:1, 4:23, 17:3, 21:2, 28:13 (My Heart)** *How soft is my heart toward God these days? How is God's grip on my heart? Spend some moments in reflective prayer right now.*
- ☐ **2 Timothy 4:7-8 (My Time)** *Based on how I steward my time NOW, is the trajectory of my life heading toward finishing well?*
- ☐ **Proverbs 3:5-8, 1 Cor. 11:27-30 (My Health)** *Have I experienced this connection between my unconditional submission to God and my overall health (physical, emotional, mental, social)?*
- ☐ **Matthew 19:16-26 (My Wealth)** *Have I allowed material things to hold a higher place in my life than Christ? Jesus warns that worldly riches are a spiritual liability (19:23ff). What evidence is there that this is the case in my life?*
- ☐ **1 Peter 4:10-11; Romans 12:4-8 (My Vocation)** *Who am I currently serving with the abilities God has given me? Have I found an area of service in my local church or community that "fits" me?*



Ephesians

- **Ephesians 1:1-14** *What has God the Father done for me? What benefits have I received from Jesus (“in Him”) and from the Holy Spirit? What truth from this passage most blows me away right now? Why? Who, apart from myself, is currently benefitting from my salvation? How?*
- **Ephesians 1:15-23** *What does Paul pray for these believers in Asia Minor? Do I honestly desire these things? In what way has the dimmer switch been turned up in my life so I can see more clearly and appreciate more dearly the realities of God in my life? Have I personally submitted to Christ’s authority and leadership in my life? What might need to change for Him to truly be “head over all” areas of my life (:21-22)?*
- **Ephesians 2:1-10** *Who am I outside of Christ? Am I daily aware that I have moved from being an object of wrath to an object of grace? What parts of my past or present do I see God rescuing me from (:4-5)? Am I just simply getting through my day or am I walking in the good works God has prepared for me (:10)? What are the “good works” God has prepared for me in this season—whether at home, at work, in my church, or my community?*
- **Ephesians 2:11-22** *The blood of Christ has brought together Jew and Gentile (:13). How have I tangibly and practically experienced this positional unity we have in Christ? How can I be used of God to help a fellow believer experience this unity? Do I view my participation in my local church from the perspective of “growing into a holy temple in the Lord” (:21)? If everyone in my church had the same spiritual maturity as I have, would the health of my church increase or decrease?*
- **Ephesians 3:1-13** *What is the mystery which has now been made known to Paul? According to vs10, who is the audience watching the Church? To the demons who know our sinfulness, what do they think of God’s grace to me? To the angels who know God’s holiness, what do they think of God’s grace to me? Do I approach my Father with confident boldness (:12)? When have I recently been amazed at the bottomless riches I have in Christ (:8)?*
- **Ephesians 3:14-21** *Paul’s praying for me again! What is he asking for on my behalf? Where do I see the Trinity in the prayer? In what way do I need to be “strengthened” (:16), “rooted and grounded” (:17) “filled up” (:19) right now? Why not pause now and pray this prayer for a family member or friend.*
- **Psalms 23** *What does this psalm reveal about God’s character? What insight into following God does this Psalm give to me? How do I relate to the emotions expressed in this psalm? How might this psalm shift my perspective on my current life situation or challenges? What truths in this psalm can I use in my worship or prayer life today?*
- **Ephesians 4:1-16** *After spending 3 chapters explaining who we really are in Christ, Paul now describes in the rest of the letter what it looks like to live this out. How would my various relationships be different if the qualities of verse 2 increasingly characterized my life? How has God gifted me? How am I currently building up the Body of Christ? According to Paul, what is my goal for the Kingdom (:1, 13)? What is the impact on the Body if I choose not to “carry my weight”?*
- **Ephesians 4:17-32** *Contrast the traits of the Old and New nature. Where do I see evidence in my life that I am indeed “putting off” the old and “putting on” the new nature? Am I giving the devil a foothold anywhere in my life? Realize that Paul would not have had to write this section if his readers were fully living from the “new self” (J).*
- **Ephesians 5:1-21** *If I am saved by grace (2:3-9), why is Paul so concerned about my conduct? Ponder these phrases: “be imitators of God” (:1), “walk in love” (:2), “walk as children of Light” (:8), “learn what is pleasing to the Lord” (:10), “do not be foolish” (:17), “be filled with the Spirit” (:18), “Be subject (submit) to one another” (:21)*

- **Ephesians 5:22-33** *The next two days of journaling speak directly to my family or family-like relationships. Today the focus is on relationship with my wife. Remember how Paul started chapter 4: “walk... with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love...” (4:1-2). Which of these qualities is she longing for me to manifest? What’s it like for my wife to live on the other side of me? How am I “washing her with the water of the Word” (5:26)? If married, what action point related to my wife do I need to lean into THIS week?*
- **Ephesians 6:1-9** *Paul shifts his focus to the parent/child relationship. What’s my response when my kids disobey me or exasperate me? Am I slow to anger like My Lord is? Am I creating a home environment that promotes flourishing? Am I praying with and for my children? Related to my job, what’s my current attitude? What is required of me today as I work (as one serving others OR as one supervising others)?*
- **Psalms 25** *What does this Psalm reveal about God's character? What insight into following God does this Psalm give to me? How do I relate to the emotions expressed in this psalm? How might this psalm shift my perspective on my current life situation or challenges? What truths in this psalm can I use in my worship or prayer life today?*
- **Ephesians 6:10-24** *Do I currently live with a war time mentality? As Satan does reconnaissance on me, what tendencies and weaknesses does he see? What should my response be according to this passage? What is the connection between putting on the armor of God and preaching the Gospel to myself?*
- **Psalms 104** *What does this psalm reveal about God's character? What insight into following God does this Psalm give to me? How do I relate to the emotions expressed in this psalm? How might this psalm shift my perspective on my current life situation or challenges? What truths in this psalm can I use in my worship or prayer life today?*
- **Scripture Memory day** *Think over the last several days. What truths has God been impressing on me? Maybe page through your journaling through Ephesians. How has God been stirring my heart? Where is He getting my attention? Could it be that God is saying, I want you to hide this truth deep in your mind and heart so it becomes part of you? What Scripture verse(s) would be meaningful for me to commit to memory so I will have it when I need it the most?*
- **1 Timothy 1:1-11** *When did God become MY Savior and Jesus Christ MY hope (1:1)? Describe the relationship between Paul and Timothy (1:2, 18; 1 Cor 4:17; Phil 2:20, 22)? Have I experienced the spiritual “Father-son” relationship as a father or son? Have I personally caught the vision of discipling ‘one man each year for the rest of my life’? According to verse 5, how is the impact of God’s Word in my life accurately measured (:5)? Are my family members currently receiving my “love from a pure heart”?*
- **1 Timothy 1:12-20** *“The glorious gospel of the blessed God” (1:11) is the power of God for salvation and transformation (Rom 1:16). How does Paul’s life prove that I am never beyond the reach of God’s grace (1:13; Acts 9:1; 26:11; Gal 1:13)? Paul viewed himself as the foremost (chief) sinner. Not that ‘he was’, but that ‘he is’. Is this how I view myself (Matt 5:3; 1 Peter 5:5b)? What response does God’s superabundant grace stir in me today?*
- **1 Timothy 2:1-15** *Timothy had a tough assignment: confront wayward elders who were causing dissension and shipwrecking theirs and others’ faith (1:3, 18-20). Paul tells Timothy to make prayer central (2:1). What does Paul teach about prayer here? How will I bring my prayer life into alignment with this teaching (2:1-8)? What does God desire for all men (2:4)? Pause right now and have a season of prayer using 2:1-8 as a model. Where do I see the Gospel in this passage?*

- **Psalm 121** *What does this psalm reveal about God's character? What insight into following God does this Psalm give to me? How do I relate to the emotions expressed in this psalm? How might this psalm shift my perspective on my current life situation or challenges? What truths in this psalm can I use in my worship or prayer life today?*
- **1Timothy 3** *By laying out standards for church leaders, Paul makes it easier for Timothy to identify the “savage wolves... speaking perverse things” that Paul warned of in Acts 20:29-30. Which spiritual leaders have touched my life? Which of these 1Timothy 3 qualities stand out in those men's lives? Whether a church leader or not, how does my life currently match up these qualifications? Can any valid accusation of wrongdoing be made against me? Am I morally and sexually pure? Do money or substances have a hold on me? What connection does Paul make between leading my family and leading in the wider domain of the local church (:4-5)?*
- **1Timothy 4** *Paul calls Timothy to combat the chaos in the Ephesian church by modeling genuine Christian faith in word and deed (:6-16). Do I really want my family to follow my example in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity? Why or why not? Which area do I need God to grow me in the most? What does it look like for a man to discipline himself for the purpose of godliness (:7-8; 1Cor 9:24-27)? Notice the “effort” words used in this passage. How vigorously have I pursued godliness this year? What does this tell me about what I value?*
- **1Timothy 5:1-16** *Do I have any blind spots in the way I relate to the elderly or the opposite sex (:1-2)? How does my current care for and respect of my aging parents (or spiritual parent) demonstrate my worship of God (:4)? What can I do to assist a widow or widower in my church or neighborhood? Remember, real love takes the initiative, acts sacrificially, to meet real needs (1John 4:10). How important is it that I provide for and manage my family well (4:8; 3:4,5,12)? What is my track record with selfless service (:10)? Is there anything about how I live my life that drags Jesus' name through the mud (:13-15)?*
- **Psalm 127 & 128** *What does this psalm reveal about God's character? What insight into following God does this Psalm give to me? How do I relate to the emotions expressed in this psalm? How might this psalm shift my perspective on my current life situation or challenges? What truths in this psalm can I use in my worship or prayer life today?*
- **1Timothy 5:17-6:5** *In what ways does Paul command me to honor the spiritual leaders in my church (:17-19)? Send an encouraging text today to one of my church leaders (elders, deacons, pastor, etc.). How is Timothy advised to handle the sinning elders (:20-21)? Have I ever seen this in my church? What vetting process does my local church have for choosing leaders (:22-25)? What special danger must I guard against if my employer is a Christian (6:1-2)?*
- **1Timothy 6:6-20** *What dire results does the “love of money” bring into a man's life (:9-10)? What's the difference between enjoying money and being a lover of money? When have I been tempted to love money? What attitudes must be in place for riches not to become a spiritual liability (:17-19; Mark 10:23; Ps 62:10b)? Twice in this portion of scripture Paul tells Timothy to “take hold” of something (6:12; 19). What? Have I truly taken hold of the abundant life Jesus promised (John 10:10)?*
- **Psalm 139** *What does this psalm reveal about God's character? What insight into following God does this Psalm give to me? How do I relate to the emotions expressed in this psalm? How might this psalm shift my perspective on my current life situation or challenges? What truths in this psalm can I use in my worship or prayer life today?*
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