

GOOD WORKS

CHAPTER 12 (week 7)

MY INTRO:

Think about your life for a moment. When you became a believer in Jesus Christ, your life took on a whole new meaning, purpose and direction.

I don't know how many believers actually follow in the way God prepared, but this chapter will help us to direct our lives in the best way possible.

MEMORY VERSE

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10

Introduction

Your salvation wasn't earned by your good deeds. We are all saved by faith, and not by good works.

See Eph 2:8-9 (For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God;

v.9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.)

Nevertheless, God wants your life now to be filled with good works – doing what is right and helpful to others. In this verse we are to follow the example of Jesus, who went around doing good.

See Acts 10:38 (*You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.*)

It is faith alone that saves, but the faith that saves is never alone.

(James said "Faith without works is useless", Ja 2:20)

Paul wrote that believers should be “careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.”

Titus 3:8 (*This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.*)

As you seek to do God’s will through good works, you – and others through you – will profit. And God will be glorified, because He has good works planned especially for you to accomplish.

EXPLORING EPHESIANS 2:10

What do you think “God’s workmanship” means?

What are we created for?

What are good works?

“FOR WE ARE GOD’S WORKMANSHIP”

1. Read Titus 3:8. Who should do good works?

This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.

Who should benefit from good works?

2. According to Ephesians 2:8-9, why don't good works have a part in our salvation?

v.8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God;

v.9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

3. Paraphrase Titus 3:14

4. What should be the result of our good works according to Matthew 5:14-16?

v.14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;

v.15 nor does *anyone* light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

v.16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

5. Read Colossians 3:17. As we do good works, who do we represent?

Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

"TO DO GOOD WORKS"

6. What were the following Christians commended for?

Dorcas Acts 9:36 Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated *in Greek* is called Dorcas); this woman was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did.

Phoebe Romans 16:1-2

v.1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea;

v.2 that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also been a helper of many, and of myself as well.

Epaphras Colossians 4:12

Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bonds slave of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God.

7. Read Matthew 25:31-46. List several practical ways in which you can serve Christ by doing good to others.

v.35'For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;

v.36 naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.'

8. In I Peter 2:12, what did Peter say would make non-Christians glorify God?

Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe *them*, glorify God in the day of visitation.

9. To whom should we do good, according to Galatians 6:10?

So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

10. What ways for doing good are mentioned in the following passages?

Rom 12:13 contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

II Cor 9:7-8 Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

v.8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;

James 1:27 Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.

11. In James 2:15-16, what did James say proves our true concern for those in need?

If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,
v.16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,"
and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is
that?

**12. Read II Timothy 3:16-17. What equips a Christian for every
good work?**

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for
correction, for training in righteousness;

v.17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good
work.

WRITE OUT EPHESIANS 2:10 FROM MEMORY.

APPLYING EPHESIANS 2:10 (*get volunteers*)

Prayerfully review your study and list several practical good works you could
do for someone.

Now write the name of one person for whom you would like to do a good
work this week and circle in your list above the thing you would like to do for
this person.