

Ordinary Faith

Overview:

- Read the Scriptures printed in this study guide.
- What keywords do you first notice? Highlight or circle them.
- What phrases catch your attention? Underline them.
- Salvation is a Big Answer for a Big Problem.

Explore:

- What are some of the threats you feel to your safety in everyday life?
- What are some of the threats that you face that affect your relationship with God?
- Read **Titus 3:3**. How would you explain this verse to someone who didn't think his sin was that big of a deal?
- Read **Titus 3:4-5**. Why do people try and earn their salvation or forgiveness through religion or morality?
- What are some ways people try to *earn* forgiveness?
- Read **Titus 3:5-6**. What is regeneration? How would you describe God's role in the work of salvation? Be specific.
- Read **Ephesians 2:8**. Discuss Salvation as "The Gift of God".
- Have you trusted in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins? If not, what is holding you back?
- Who might you discuss this study with this week?
- Takeaway: Write a personal action step based on this conversation.

Only God Can Rescue Us

Titus 1:10-11 *For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. 11 They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach.*

Titus 1:1 *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,*

Titus 3:3 *For 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*

Titus 3:4-5 *But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness,*

Titus 3:5-7 *but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,*

Titus 3:8 *The 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.*

(Scripture references from the English Standard Version)

Notes:

The Book of Titus... **Only God Can Rescue Us**

Threat #1: A Pagan Culture

Threat #2: False Teachers

Titus 1:1, 10-11

Before we can be saved,

We have to understand our problem.

How do you like this picture?

Titus 3:3

The Situation

You can't find salvation through trying to earn it

We aren't saved because of good works.

Titus 3:4-5

Salvation is the work of God in you.

Salvation from beginning to end is a work of God.

Titus 3:5-7

God accomplishes the work of salvation.

Salvation is God's gift.

Ephesians 2:8

Salvation is meant to lead us to a life of good works.

Some think that the Christian life stops at conversion.

Titus 3:8

God saves us for a life of good works.

Do you have salvation?