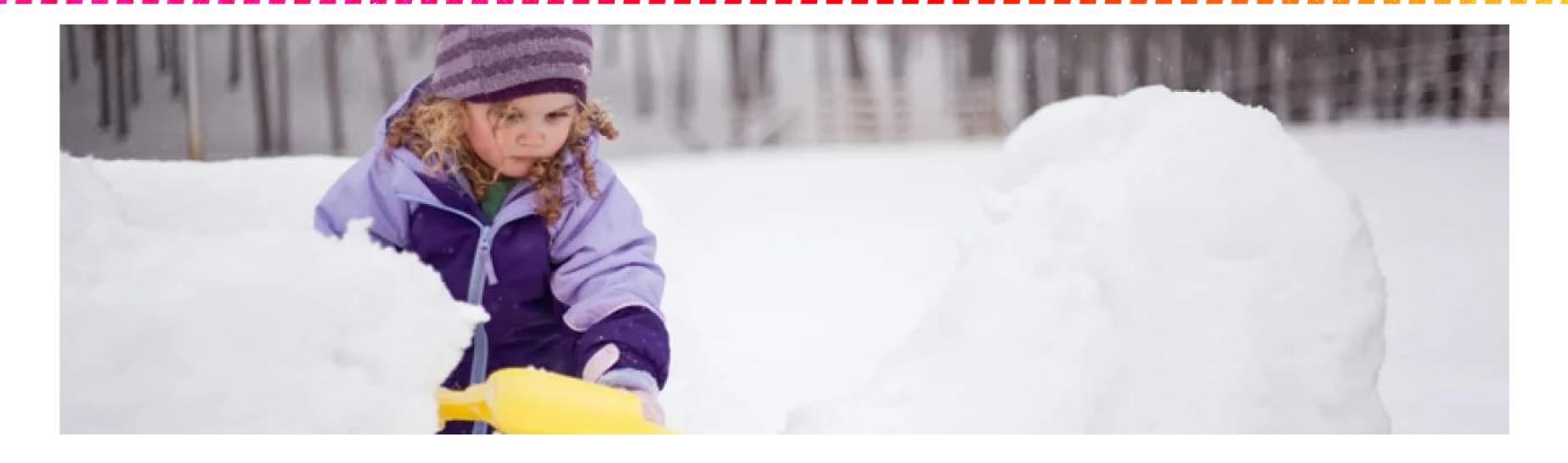
Scripture Reading Titus 3:1 – II







Building takes so much more than destruction

time, passion, thought, effort...

To pursue unity

we have to kill the vices of division in ourselves.

1. God is clear about the vices of division

- 1. Unity is fused with maturity
- 2. Reverse the virtues of unity
- 3. Observe explicit vices of division
- 4. Biblical occasions of division



1. Unity is fused with maturity

Ephesians 4:12 - 13

...so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ...

4 simple study procedures 1. Unity is fused with maturity

Proverbs 17:19a "He who loves a quarrel loves sin..."



4 simple study procedures 2. Reverse the virtues of unity

Ephesians 4:2 – 3 Be completely **humble** and **gentle**; be **patient**, **bearing with** one another in love. **Make every effort** to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.



3. Observe explicit vices of division

Galatians 5:24 – 26

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

4. Biblical occasions of division

Positive examples: Acts 15, Gal. 2, 2 Cor. 12 Negative examples: 1 Tim. 6:3 – 5, 2 Tim. 3:1 – 9



4. Biblical occasions of division

Ungodly Influencers:

Negative examples: I Tim. 6:3-5, 2 Tim. 3:1-9



2. We have to kill these vices in ourselves

Galatians 5:24

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Acknowledging isn't recognizing.

We acknowledge vices, but don't recognize ourselves practicing them.

3 problems with evasion:

- 1. We identify them in others but not ourselves.
- 2. We follow influencers we should reject.
- 3. We have ignorant, all or nothing views of complex human relations and institutions.



3. The vices of division will only die in the death of Christ.

The gospel has to change you at the very place you live and die.

The gospel isn't deep enough

not generic religiosity, but psychologically literally.

Luke 9:22 – 26

And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.



24 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever <mark>loses his life for me will save it.</mark> What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

The Core: Nature and flesh

Attachment
Orientation/control
Good & pleasure / bad & pain
Self-worth/worthwhile development



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To feel you are getting these is "life" and to feel denied, is "death" on a primal level.



The Core: Nature and flesh

Attachment Orientation/control "Flow"

Union/fellowship Truth/faithfulness Joy/integrity Worth/development Justification/Sanctification

