

# Growth Group Leader Guide

This “growth group leader guide” is meant to be just that, a guide. Please feel free as the leader of your group to add questions or comments, as you feel necessary, to fit your group’s dynamics.

Also, don’t feel pressured to cover every question.

## **Being Trained by Grace and Motivated by Hope for Good Works – March 5, 2023**

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO ANSWER ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS!  
Please pick your favorite questions and spend time on those. Use those questions to launch helpful and godly discussion.

### **4 Parts of the Sermon**

- **Context of Titus**
- **Trained by Grace**
- **Motivated by Hope**
- **Zealous for Good Works**

#### **I. Context of Titus**

- Look at Galatians 2:1-3 and Acts 15:1-21 (you don’t have to read the whole passage. Just get the context).
  - Why do you think Paul was so confident in leaving Titus to correct the Judaizers that were on Crete?
- According to Acts 2:11 there were Cretans at Pentecost. Why is it so important to establish structure (elders, preachers, membership, etc.) in churches rather than just having haphazard gatherings of believers? What were some of the problems Titus was left in Crete to address? (ref. Titus 1:5, 1:12, 2:1, 2:15, 3:1, 3:10)
- Paul always ties the gospel to his commands for Christian living. What is the problem with making demands on Christians that are separated from the gospel?

#### **II. Trained by Grace**

- What is grace and how does it relate to salvation? (Hint: forgiveness)

- What is the law and how is it different from grace?
- We know we are saved by grace, but why do we have such a hard time believing that we are sanctified by grace?
- Read Romans 6:1-2. When we see people taking advantage of grace to continue in sin, what does that indicate about their heart? How should we respond to that person?
- What are some “rules” we have made up that all “good” Christians should do? Are those rules Biblical, or man-made? What does grace say about these rules or standards?
- Have you seen examples in your life or a friend’s life of rules being deflating but grace being encouraging?
- How can grace train someone towards godliness if it forgives and doesn’t punish? Can grace train an unbeliever?
- How do we poorly exhibit grace to those we love most, and how does that make it difficult for us to understand God’s grace? Do you treat other believers with forgiving grace, or do you hold them to the punishment of the law?
- Is 1 Cor. 5:5 application of grace or law?

### **III. Motivated by Hope**

- What graces have you experienced in this life?
- Read Eph. 1:13-14. Why is it so important that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit? What does it mean if someone does not have the fruit of the Spirit in their life?
- How does current grace, including salvation, give us hope for heaven?
- Read Rom. 8:17. What is required for us to share in Jesus’ inheritance? We tend to think of suffering in terms of direct persecution, but are there other ways that we suffer and glorify God? How have you suffered and NOT glorified God?
- Read Titus 2:14. How is it that those under the law are lawless, but those under grace fulfill and keep the law?
- How has fulfilling either God’s moral law or societal laws given you opportunity to share the gospel?

#### **IV. Zealous for Good Works**

- What is the difference between doing good works to earn grace and doing good works as a result of the grace shown to you?
- Read 1 Cor. 3:12-15. How can the hope of heavenly rewards make us godly, but striving for earthly rewards corrupt our heart?
- Do others view you as someone who is waiting for opportunities to do good works? Are you the first or last to volunteer to help?
- Read Titus 2:1-10. Which area are you lacking in? Repent of your failure to your group, ask them to pray for you, and be reminded of God's gracious and forgiving attitude towards you.
- How can being a person described in Titus 2:1-10 give you opportunity for sharing the gospel?
- How can you think about your finances differently so as to plan and be prepared to be a gracious giver?

#### **Conclusion:**

- How does the gospel motivate us towards good works?

#### **Announcements:**

#### **Daylight Saving Time Begins March 12**

Get ready to spring forward! Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour next Saturday night, and we'll see you bright and early on Sunday morning!

#### **Membership Class Session #2**

**Sunday, March 12 | 8:50am | Room 202**

Learn more about what membership is and what it looks like at COBC. Come find out how membership encourages us to care for and be accountable to our church family. Sign up online at [cobc.churchcenter.com/registrations](http://cobc.churchcenter.com/registrations).

#### **CCW Committee Meeting**

**Sunday, March 12 | 12:30pm | Room 402**

Join our CCW committee in prayer as we gather together to pray for the church body and our cross-cultural workers.

## VBS Needs You!

**Music Team:** Love music and want to help with VBS? Join the VBS music team. No singing skill required, but must have rhythm! Email Olivia ([olivia@countryoaks.org](mailto:olivia@countryoaks.org)) to join the team or for more info.

## Prayer for the Nations Night

**Friday, March 17 | 6:30pm | Donckels' Home**

Join us at the Donckels' home (20614 Oak Pass Ave.) as we gather to pray for unreached people groups. Please contact Rachel W. at 661.805.4164 if you have any questions.