

★ Don't Be Foolish Any More

Lesson 4

Maintain Good Works

The Teacher's Preparation

Scripture Passages to Study: Titus 3, Acts 9; 19:11-22; 26

Study Guide: Read "Don't Be Foolish Any More: *Maintain Good Works*" from *New Testament Highlights - Part 2*.

Lesson Objective: God wants His people to be wise, not foolish. It is foolish to spend your time on things that are unprofitable and have no value. It is wise and profitable to do good works.

Lesson Application: I will be wise, not foolish, and do good works.

Memory Verse: Titus 3:8



This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

—Titus 3:8

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The Teacher's Checklist

- Activity Worksheets and Pencils
- Attendance and Record Notebook
- Lesson Plan
- Cue Card
- Memory Verse Card
- Music Player
- Visual Illustrations for the Lesson
- Attention Getter: Report Card

Teacher Tips

Depend on God.

Remember that God will support you as you do His work.

The Teacher’s Lesson Plan

Materials: Report Card

You could create a report card or request a blank one from one of your local schools. Perhaps you could write in poor grades and other low marks and comments.

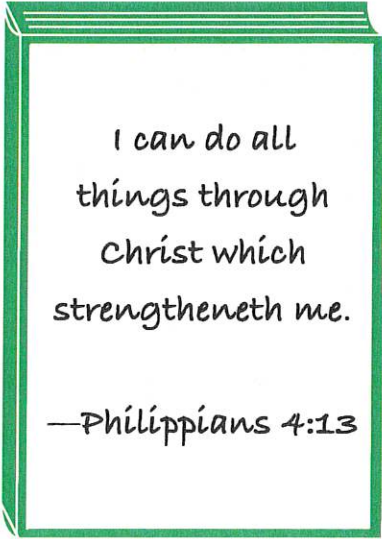
What You Could Say:

Most of our days are filled with fun, exciting events—many of us go to school, learn about other countries and interesting animals, make new friends, and so many other things. Perhaps you are learning how to play the piano or how to skate on the ice. Maybe you are part of a kids’ baseball or soccer team and practice hard every Tuesday and Thursday after school. With so many things to do, it may be quite a challenge to focus on one activity at a time. You may be so busy that, while you are doing one thing like homework or your chores, you keep thinking about the other things you need to do.

To focus on something means to give that something all of your attention. For example, when your teachers tells you to “focus” on your schoolwork, they mean that you should not be thinking about what you will be eating for lunch or which games you will play with your friends. You should only be thinking about your work. Just think what would happen if you did not focus—you might not do as well as you should on your assignments or quizzes! Your report cards would be filled with grades that could have been better!

At Sunday school, you need to “focus” as well, not to receive a good report card but to learn more about the Bible and to please God. You may want to talk or play with your friends, but do not give in to that temptation! Ask Christ Jesus to help you, for He promises that *“whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do.”*

Teacher’s Notes



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1st - 3rd Grade
Lesson 4

Maintain Good Works

The book of Titus is a letter Paul wrote to a young preacher by the name of Titus. It is another letter Paul wrote while he was in a prison cell in Rome waiting to die. Maybe he was thinking back about his life before he was saved. He was the enemy of Christians then. He hunted the Christians and punished them for believing in Jesus. But then he got saved. Now he tells Titus, "We ourselves also were sometime foolish, disobedient, deceived" (Titus 3:3).

The word *foolish* means "fool-like or lacking in sense or judgment." The opposite of *foolish* is wise. To be wise is to have good sense. No one wants to be a fool or act like a fool. The book of Proverbs in the Bible says much about being foolish and being wise. Proverbs 3:35 says, "The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools."

No one wants to be thought of as a fool. God tells us how to become wise in Proverbs 3:7, "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil." In Titus 3, God tells us something else we must do in order to be wise and not foolish.

Don't Be Foolish About God

Are you a thankful person? Do you stop to say, "Thank you," to your mom or dad for the home and food and clothes they provide for you? Do you thank your pastor or your Sunday school teacher for teaching God's Word to you? Do you thank your schoolteacher for helping you learn? Do you stop to thank God for all He has given you: life, health, a family, a home, food, clothes, a free country, a church, the Bible, and salvation? Being thankful will keep you from being foolish about God. It will keep you from disobeying His commands. Be sure to thank Him today and every day for all the wonderful blessings He gives you.

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

—Romans 1:21

Don't Be Foolish About Preaching

What did your pastor preach about last Sunday? What did your Sunday school teacher talk about last Sunday? Do you remember? The most important hours you spend each week are the ones you spend listening to the teaching and preaching of God's Word. Preaching shows a sinner that he needs to be saved. Through preaching, God's Holy Spirit teaches and convicts us.

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

—I Corinthians 1:18

Be sure to listen carefully in your Sunday school class and in your church service. Take notes if it helps you pay attention. Later, read over your notes so you can remember the lessons God was trying to teach you.

Don't Be Foolish About Unprofitable Things

Have you ever met someone who likes to argue? Some people like to argue about the Bible. They ask foolish questions that really don't matter. Paul told Titus,

But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

—Titus 3:9

Foolish questions and arguments about family history or politics are a waste of time. It is better to spend our time serving God than arguing about foolish things that don't matter.

Conclusion:

Instead of foolish arguments, Paul told Titus that we must keep on doing good works:

This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

—Titus 3:8

What can you do that will help someone or encourage someone today? Who can you talk to about Jesus? What can you do to help your pastor or your church? These are the things we should do. Remember, "Only one life; 'twill soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last."

Teacher's Notes
