

Love and Forgiving leads to you being a better Person  
Titus 3:1-8

- I. Being a better Person begins with love and forgiving.
  - a. At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. **But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared**, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit Titus 3:3-5(NIV)
  - b. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. Mark 12:31
  - c. Failure to love and forgive will destroy you. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. Galatians 5:15
  - d. Love extends itself to those nearby. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10
  - e. To Love and forgive is to show Kindness. And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32
    1. Kindness means to be good, useful and helpful, considerate and gracious in all situations regardless of circumstances. This is indeed a difficult calling to answer but it is an essential one that we must answer if we are to become a better person.
    2. The next time someone gets on your nerves, treats you badly, or mistreats you in any other way, remember that Christ died for them.

- But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8
  - So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. Matthew 7:12
3. Kindness can become its own motive. We are made kind by being kind.
- f. To Love is to forgive.
1. Forgiving: This means to be gracious towards others and not to hold grudges or seek vengeance for wrongs committed against you. It is to pardon others for the wrongs they have done and no longer hold it against them.
  2. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:20-21

- II. Being a better Person involves being respectful of rules and regulations.
- a. Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, Titus 3:1
  - b. Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God...Romans 13:1-6
  - c. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; Matthew 5:44

- d. Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. Acts 5:29
- e. The Christian should be an example of a law abiding citizen. This doesn't mean that we will do everything perfect, but it means that we will do the best we can to show respect to authorities and to be law-abiding people.

III. Love and forgiveness help us to be considerate of all people.

- a. To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. Titus 3:2
- b. Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can. (John Wesley)
- c. Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. Matthew 7:12
- d. There are definitely people who are not good. They make no pretense about being selfish or self-centered. They will lie, cheat, steal, deceive, maim, or kill in order to get what they want. **Do not allow them to cause you to do the same thing.**
  - If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men... Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:18-21 (READ ALL)
  - Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14 (NIV)
- e. Don't go out of your way to cause trouble or make enemies. Don't argue all the time with people, thinking you are always right or you are always defending some righteous cause.

- IV. An old Persian legend once pictured four angels watching God create the world. One said, "Why did God make it?" Another said, "How did God make it?" A third said, "Can I have it?" And the fourth said, "CAN I HELP TO MAKE IT BETTER?"
- a. 1st - Philosophical attitude - Why? 2nd - Scientific attitude - How? 3rd - Selfish attitude - Can I have it? 4th - Christian attitude - Can I help to make it better?
  - b. Your World, your neighborhood, even your church is not what it should be. Do you question Why? Do you question How we got here? Do you ask what is in it for me? Do you ask what can I do to make this situation better?
  - c. If I can help somebody, as I pass along,  
If I can cheer somebody, with a word or song,  
If I can show somebody, how they're travelling wrong,  
Then my living shall not be in vain.  
(Mahalia Jackson)

**Set an example.  
Treat everyone with  
kindness and respect,  
even those who are rude  
to you – not because  
they are nice, but  
because you are.**

**Spirit Science**