**The Pastoral Epistles: 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus**

***Lesson 7: Believers should do “Good Works”***

**Series Principal Bible Verses: 1 Timothy 1:15-17-**Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**Bible Passages for Lesson 7:**

**Titus 3:14**-Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order to provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives.

**I Timothy 6:18**-Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

**I Timothy 1:9-10-**He saved us and called us to a holy life-not because of anything we have done, but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to the light through the gospel.

**Lesson Objective-**We are to be a people of Good Works. God has a unique plan for each of us to serve Him in this world. We do that through Good Works.

**Introduction-**

What are “good works”? Good works are actions that are motivated by faith, follow God's law, and bring glory to God. Good works are a means by which we show the world that we are saved. It’s how we carry out God’s love in the world. It is an act of kindness, good will, or charity.

**Main Point 1-Good Works are not a Means to Salvation. The only foundation for salvation is Christ. Good works do not give us salvation, but they are absolutely meant to be the result of salvation.**

1. **Why are good works not necessary for Salvation? Can you have faith with no deeds?**
2. **How are grace, faith, good works, and salvation all tied together?**

**Ephesians 2:8-9**-For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.

**James 2:14-17**-What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

**Main Point 2- God equips us for our Good Works that He prepared in advance. God calls us His workmanship or His artwork, from the Greek word *poiēma*. We are something crafted, with skill and a purpose, by God, for His purposes.**

1. **Do we have any say in our good works? How do we know what works God has planned for us? (I Timothy 1:9-10)**

**Ephesians 2:10**-For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**Psalm 139:13-14**-"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well".

**Main Point 3-Others are to See Our Good Works and Give Glory to God. (Matthew 5:14-16,**

 **I Timothy 6:18)**

1. What is the motivation for my Good Works? Should we boast about our Good Works? What are the Good Works God has given you? Does Hillcrest encourage me to do good works?

1. What can Hillcrest do to help every member identify the good works he or she should be doing? What should the response of others be when they see our Good Works? How can we discover, develop and use the gifts and talents God has given us to serve Him?

**Titus 2:7**-In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness.

**Titus 3:1-2**-Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone.

**Call to Action:**

What does a life filled with Good Works look like? Do you have a life filled with Good Works? Why are we told to not grow weary doing good? Is it hard to do good? Is there a reward for doing good works? What is keeping you from doing good works? (Galatians 6:9-10. Titus 3:8, 14)