

Adorning the Gospel in your Community

Sherry Fojas & John Cleary

Titus 2:9,10 “Urge bondslaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, not pilfering, but showing all good faith so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.

Adorn – “to put clothes on”, “to make beautiful”

WHY?

God pursues you – His history!

Jesus gave example – Jn 1:14

WHO?

John 20:21

Matt 5:14-16

“The Church is the only cooperative society in the world that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members” William Temple

“Are we the kind of church of which our city says: ‘We don’t share a lot of their beliefs, but I shudder to think of this city without them. They are such an important part of the community. They give so much! If they left we’d have to raise taxes because others won’t give of themselves like they do.’” Tim Keller in *The Supremacy of Christ in a Postmodern World* p. 122, John Piper & Justin Taylor (general editors)

In what ways are we actively silencing the accusations against God? 1Pet 2:12 & 15, Titus 2:7&8

HOW?

1. Be personally convinced
 - Spiritual convictions through the word and prayer

 - Motivated by God’s grace
2. Get involved!
 - Be an example

 - Be open to opportunities to share the Gospel in word & deed

 - Consider burden & gifting

 - Exhibit A – Don & Susan Burton

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3. Motivating your group
 - Pray
 - Teach biblical basis
 - Highlight those in action
 - Look for established group projects
 - Instruct & pray
 - Invite non-Christians to serve with your group
 - Debrief
 - Host a Volunteer Fair
 - Invite community organizations
 - Promote & instruct
 - Cautions:
 - Avoid “one size fits all”
 - Avoid pitting service against group & vice versa

CONCLUSION

- Be personally convinced
- Get involved!
- Be a mobilizer

Adorning the Gospel

3 Day Challenge

Day 1 - Personal Convictions

- Read through the following passages and journal what does this tell you about God, what does this tell you about man and if this is true what does it mean for me?
Matthew 5:14-16
1 Peter 2:12, 15
Titus 2:7, 8
- How does God want to use you to get involved in serving the community? Consider: What kind of burdens has God laid on my heart? What kind of gifting would I like to see developed?

Day 2 - Get Involved

- What opportunities do I have to serve my community? Develop an action plan to get involved and share it with a friend to keep you accountable.
- Write out your testimony using these 3 points - your life before God, what brought you to the Lord, and how is your different now that you are a Christian. (1-2 minutes max, practice saying this with others)
- Write out a response to “you’re such a nice person”. How does this bring glory to God?

Day 3 - Motivating Your Group

- How does God want to use you to mobilize those around you (house, small bible study, home group, church)?
- Share to your group what God is teaching you as you serve in the community.