

# Grace notes

guides for personal Bible study

## *Trinity at Work: The Renewal*

**Titus 3:3-8:** “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, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.”

### *Points to Ponder*

1. Because of sin, we are often foolish and fall in love with what Pastor Jeske refers to as “fool’s gold,” things that are contrary to God’s plans for us. What are some things in your life that might qualify as fool’s gold? Make a list of five things.
2. **Read Titus 3:3.** In what ways does Paul describe the way we were before God sent his Son?
3. How has the Holy Spirit made a difference in your spiritual life?
4. If you do good works on earth, will they help you get to heaven? What is at the heart of true good works?
5. **Read Titus 3:8.** As we press on in life, entrusted by God with the wonderful message of our Savior, how can we encourage others to let the Holy Spirit live in their hearts?

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived, and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. But our loving Father sent his Son to save us, and we no longer have to struggle on our own. The Holy Spirit changes us, renews us, and helps us to overcome our temptations and to live lives of thankfulness and service to God and others.

## *What else does God say?*

**Galatians 2:20:** I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**2 Corinthians 5:17-21:** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!