

MORE



WEEK 6: GOODNESS

WEEK 5: ACCOUNTABILITY FOLLOW UP

How well did you follow through on the relationship or situation God brought to your attention last week on kindness?

INTRO

Today, we're focusing on the fruit of the Spirit called Goodness. You might think that the term "goodness" seems vague or generic, but biblically, it's more than that; it's powerful. Goodness is moral integrity given to us by the Holy Spirit. Goodness is the courage to do what is right, especially when it's hard or unpopular. Goodness isn't perfection; it's about living a life that points to God's righteousness and justice.

BIG IDEA

God's Word is the standard by which we define "Goodness." It's His unchanging nature and His perfection which allows us to define it in such a way. And it is God's goodness towards us that changes the way we live. As we grow in Christ, we become people who not only reject what is wrong but also actively pursue what is good. Goodness is God's character shining through our everyday choices.



OPENING DISCUSSION



In this week's message, we heard Pastor Darren quote the creation story in Genesis 1 and how originally everything was unquestionably good. We can read that the light, the land, the sea, the plants, and the trees were good. We see that the sun, the moon, the stars, and all the creatures were good.

1. When you hear the word "Good," what comes to mind? Is it a person, a feeling, or an action, and why?

2. Tell us about a time in your past when you thought that everything around you was good, but later realized that it wasn't. What changed your mind?

READ

- Mark 10:17-27
- Psalm 23

APPLICATION

In these verses, we see that the rich young ruler went away sorrowfully because he thought there was something he could do to inherit eternal life. He had at least been following the commandments since his youth. Jesus, however, wanted something more profound than just following the commandments; He wanted what had the young ruler's heart, his wealth.

1. Can you share a time when self-preservation was the motivation for a "good" decision or choice?

2. Are there any distorted desires you may be dealing with that you've been feeding versus starving?



TAKEAWAY

Goodness isn't about trying harder; it's about trusting deeper. We can't be good enough on our own, but with God, all things are possible, including the transformation of our hearts. As we lay our distorted desires at the foot of the cross and choose to follow the Good Shepherd, His Spirit produces goodness in us. That's how we represent Christ in a world that desperately needs to see what is truly good.



LISTENING TO THE LORD

Take some time and seek God for the following questions.

1. God, is there something in my life right now that I am putting before you? If so, will you please reveal that to me right now?

2. Pray through your next steps on how to eliminate this from your life and share with the group what steps you will take this week to do what He told you.

