

Message on Goodness

Good morning boys and girls, I hope all of you are doing well and are excited to get back to being together in church again. It won't be long and I am getting excited to see all of you again.

Let's get started with a word of prayer: **Father we love You and pray that you will be with us this morning. We pray that you will speak through us today and bless in the service. In Jesus name, Amen.**

Before we get into our message this morning, let's sing one of our favorite fun songs: **If I Were a Chipmunk**

Bible Lesson

Our Bible Memorize Verse this week is: **Galatians 6:9: "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."**

Last week our message was on kindness, this week our it is on goodness, it sounds like it is the same thing but it is very different.

In our memory verse, doing well, or good, does not just mean being good, but doing good works and pushing others to do good.

What kinds of things do we do that are good?

These cans of food are a hint about something good that we can do.

All around us are people who do not have enough money for food. One simple way to do good works is to donate food to people who have none.

Churches and schools do something called “food drives.” This is when you bring lots of canned food or boxes of food and they give them away to people who are in need.

When we get back to meeting in church, I would like to start a can food drive and help Brother Dale Hollowell’s food bank. He gives food out to about 230 families in need each week.

With so many people out of work, that will certainly increase.

Can you think of other ways we can do good works for people in our community and around the world? (*Picking up trash, clothing drives, buying gifts for children at Christmas, etc.*)

How can we discover more about goodness – what it is and where it comes from? By looking in God’s Word!

Let's go to His Word now and see what He will reveal to us about goodness.

Let's begin by reading our theme scripture Galatians 5:22-23. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

The Bible tells us in this passage that goodness is a Fruit of the Spirit.

If we are saved, the Holy Spirit is living inside of us, and we can be people who overflow with goodness!

As we come to know God more and more, we change! Goodness becomes part of who we are. With the Spirit living inside of us, He gives the power to do good!

Let's read Psalm 25:7, "Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

God is good. It is a key part of who He is that we have to believe and cling to.

We see His goodness displayed to us in many ways. What aspect of God's goodness does this verse tell us about? (*Forgiveness, forgetting our sins*).

God does not have to forgive us of the many sins we commit, but in His great love and goodness, He does.

Psalm 31:19 says: "Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!"

Also, Zechariah 9:16-17 says: "And the Lord their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon his land. For how great is his goodness, and how great is his beauty!"

What do we learn about God's goodness from these two verses? (*God's goodness is great for those who follow Him.*)

If we are believers, God has promised His goodness to us. This means that whatever happens in our lives, however horrible or bad it may seem, God ultimately intends it for our good.

And because He is completely good, it is impossible for Him to do anything *not* good.

When you see and go through terrible times, you have to learn to cling to this truth. Our God is good, all of the time, and the things we think are intended for our harm, He intends for our good.

In Philemon 1:13-14, Paul said “Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel: But without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly.

I wanted us to read this verse because it reveals to us an important thing about the Fruit of the Spirit.

This is a letter from Paul to Philemon who had a church in his house. He wants him to free a slave, Onesimus from punishment, but he says he does not want them to do this out of “compulsion.”

This means he does not want him to do it because Paul is making them do it. He wants Philemon to do it because he wants to do it.

When we abide in Christ, and come to know Him more and more, the Fruit of the Spirit becomes part of who we are.

We begin to want to show the fruit in our lives, like goodness and kindness. Your parents will not have to tell you to be good or to be kind, but you will do it on your own.

This is what happens when we allow Jesus to completely change us from the inside out!

Galatians 6:9 reads, “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not..”

Ephesians 2:10 says, “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

What do we learn about goodness based on these two verses?

We learn that God has created us to do good.

Doing good may be difficult and challenging, but it is also rewarding.

We grow more like Christ, we learn how to be compassionate and loving to the poor and needy.

We experience the love of people we may have never talked to before.

I want us to memorize Galatians 6:9, Galatians 6:9: “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

If anyone who is watching, has never given your heart to Jesus, I hope you will this morning. All you have to do is ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and be the Lord of your life and He will save you.

Let's close in a work of prayer: Father, we love you and ask You to help us do good through the leading of the Holy spirit. We pray that if there is anyone who has not given their heart and life to You that they would this morning. Be with us and watch over us and keep us safe until we are able to meet again. In Jesus Name, amen.

Boys and girls, I hope you are doing well and it won't be long until we will be back together again. Be safe and do good this week. God Bless