

Small Group Discussion Questions

ICE BREAKER:

Share a time when you were growing up and your Mom said to you, "be good," and you didn't obey. (This may be a funny story or a serious story.) What did you learn?

What impacted you the most from Sunday's sermon?

CONNECTING:

1. Read the following verses, and share or write down everything you learn about God's goodness. (Watch His character and activities.)

Exodus 33:18-23, Psalm 23:6; 34:8; 100:5; 119:68; 145:9
Isaiah 63:7, Nahum 1:7, Matthew 7:11, Acts 10:38
Romans 8:28

Share or write a sentence or two describing what you have learned about God's goodness.

As a pattern for our goodness what especially impresses you about God's goodness?

2. What do the following verses say about my goodness prior to salvation? (Note my character and activity.)

Isaiah 64:6; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:10-12

Check out 2 Corinthians 5:17 to learn how a sinner could be good and do good!


3. Read the following examples, and share or write what you observe about the believer's goodness. (Watch their character and activities.)

Paul – Romans 7:18-20

The widow – 1 Timothy 5:9, 10

What impresses you most about goodness from these examples?

CULTIVATING THE **FRUIT** OF THE **SPIRIT**



FALL TEACHING SERIES

The Fruit of Goodness

Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV) The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, **goodness**, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Galatians 6:10 (NIV) So then, as we have opportunity, let's do what is good toward all men.

Psalms 37:3 (NIV) Trust in the LORD and do good.

Romans 12:21 (NIV) Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good

Goodness is about perceiving and conferring

_____.

Five ways to overcome evil with good

1. Excel in showing _____

Romans 12:10b (TPT) Try to outdo yourselves in respect and honor of one another.

2. Be intentional with _____

Romans 12:13b (VOICE) take every opportunity to open your *life and home* to others

3. Always speak _____

Romans 12:14 (VOICE) When people mistreat or malign you, bless them. Always speak blessings, not curses.

4. Don't come across as _____

Romans 12:16 (TPT) Be as mindful of another's worth as you are of your own. Don't live with a lofty mindset, thinking you are too important to serve others, but be willing to do menial tasks and identify with those who are humble minded. Don't be smug or even think for a moment that you know it all.

5. Be _____ **with those who oppose you**

Romans 12:18-20 (MSG) Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it." Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness.

To overcome evil with good, you must choose to do good when it's hard; when no one is looking; when it's not expected; when you don't feel like it... and when it's not appreciated.... Just like JESUS.

John 15:5 (ESV) I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.