

**Personal Study Guide**  
**Part 2 The Goodness of God**

**Read the following introduction then watch the video using pages 2 & 3 to take notes. Use the information on pages 4 & 5 to dig deeper during the week and page 6 to discuss with a friend.**

### Defining the goodness of God

- Revealed to Moses: Exodus 33:19; 34:5-7
  - Moses' Request: "Show me Your glory." Exodus 33:18
  - God's Promise: "All My goodness will pass before you." Exodus 33:19
  - God's Answer: Exodus 34:5-7
  
- Packer's Observation:

"Within the cluster of God's moral perfections there is one in particular to which the term 'goodness' points – the quality which God specially singled out from the whole when proclaiming 'all his goodness' to Moses, He spoke of Himself as 'abundant in goodness and truth' (Exodus 34:6). This is the quality of generosity."

"Generosity expresses the simple wish that others should have what they need to make them happy."

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*
  
- Tozer's Definition:

"The goodness of God is that which disposes Him to be kind, cordial, benevolent, and full of good will toward men. He is tenderhearted and of quick sympathy... By His nature He is inclined to bestow blessedness and He takes holy pleasure in the happiness of His people."

A.W. Tozer, *Knowledge of the Holy*
  
- Scripture's Declaration:

*For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord give grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.* Psalm 84:11

**Watch Session 2 of The Real God and Take notes below.**

**How does God reveal His goodness to us?**

1. Through \_\_\_\_\_ blessings Psalm 145:7-9  
Psalm 145:16-17

2. Through \_\_\_\_\_ deliverances Psalm 107

- Rescues us from our enemies. Psalm 107:2
- Rescues us when we “drift” spiritually. Psalm 107:4
  
- Rescues us from the “shadow of death.” Psalm 107:10
  
- Heals our diseases. Psalm 107:20
  
- Saves us in the midst of life’s storms. Psalm 107:29

\*Note the pattern verses: 1,8,15,22,31

3. Through His son, \_\_\_\_\_

- Jesus is the proof of God’s goodness.  
*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*  
Romans 5:8
  
- Jesus is the guarantee of future goodness.  
*He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?*  
Romans 8:32

## How are we to respond to God's goodness?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ and receive God's greatest good gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

*Or do you show contempt for the riches of His kindness, forbearance, and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?*

Romans 2:4

2. \_\_\_\_\_ your life and future fully to the lordship of Christ.

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.*

Romans 12:1

3. \_\_\_\_\_ God's promise that you will NEVER miss out on any good thing as long as you live.

*For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD gives grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.*

Psalms 84:11

## Application:

1. Take five minutes before you pray each time this week and list:
  - 3 Specific blessings
  - 1 Specific deliverance
2. For more in depth study, read *True Spirituality*, by Chip Ingram: Section 1 – *How to Give God What He Wants the Most*

**This section is designed to help you discover what God's Word says about the goodness of God.**

Sometimes it can seem that God isn't looking out for our best interests. We can't make sense of our lives, and we don't understand why certain things happen. Because we can't see things from His eternal perspective, we can feel confusion, anger, or disillusionment.

1. Having an eternal perspective is crucial in understanding the goodness of God. We should constantly remind ourselves that this life is not all there is, and that there is an eternity of perfect goodness awaiting us on the other side of death

*"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.<sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)*

What does it look like practically to "fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen"?

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2. Psalm 84:11 (NASB) says:

*"For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless."*

How do the words sun, shield, favor and honor reflect the goodness of God?

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3. What are five specific ways that you have experienced God's goodness in your life?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

4. From your experience, what can help you trust in God's goodness even when life doesn't seem "good"?

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5. Romans 8:31 says:

**"What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"**

**Let those words sink in. God is for us. God is FOR you. There are a lot of Christians whose view of God is that He is demanding, powerful, and harsh. But to actually believe that God is for us and delights to show us favor and goodness... not so much!**

**The greatest evidence that He is good and is FOR you is the very next verse.**

*"He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all - how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things." (Romans 8:32)*

### **TALK IT OVER**

**We are better together because God created us for relationships. Work through the following questions with a friend.**

- 1. When was a time in your life that you received gracious and unexpected goodness? What are some specific ways you have received goodness from God?**
- 2. In your opinion, why is it important that a person believes that God is good?**
- 3. Share a time in your life when you found it difficult to trust in the goodness of God.**
- 4. A.W. Tozer said, "The goodness of God is that which disposes Him to be kind, cordial, benevolent, and full of good will toward men. He is tenderhearted and of quick sympathy... By His nature He is inclined to bestow blessedness and He takes holy pleasure in the happiness of His people." What word or phrase most stands out to you? What word or phrase do you have a hard time really believing?**
- 5. How well do you reflect God's goodness to others - evidenced by being committed to the best interests of others: Under what kinds of situations do you find it difficult to be good to others?**