

Day Three • Wednesday, May 6

Tasted That the Lord Is Good

Psalm 34:8 (ESV)

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

There is a small word at the end of Peter's sentence that can sting if you read it wrong. "If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good." If? Is Peter making me wonder whether I really know God at all?

Read the "if" more carefully. In the original Greek, this kind of "if" is the kind that assumes the answer is yes. It's less like "if you happen to have tasted" and more like "since you have tasted." Peter is not putting his readers on trial. He is reminding them of something they already know in their bones. You have tasted. You would not be reading this letter if you had not.

Where did you taste it? You tasted the goodness of the Lord at the font, when water and Word were poured over you and the name of the triune God was placed upon you. You taste it every Sunday when the absolution is spoken — when the pastor stands in the stead of Christ and says, "I forgive you all your sins." You taste it most literally at the altar, where the Lord places His own body and blood on your tongue for the forgiveness of sins. The Means of Grace are exactly that — the means by which the goodness of God comes off the page and onto your tongue.

Faith is not a leap into something you have never experienced. Faith is what happens when a hungry soul has eaten and now knows the cook. The infant in Peter's picture is not arguing about whether milk exists. The infant has had it. The infant longs for more because there has been a first taste, and that taste was good.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Where can you point in your own life to a moment when you tasted that the Lord is good?
2. Why do you think God chose to come to us through such ordinary, tangible things — water, bread, wine, a spoken word?
3. How does remembering that you have already tasted His goodness change the way you approach the days ahead?

CLOSING PRAYER

Gracious Father, I have tasted Your goodness in Baptism, in Your Word, and at Your Table. Keep that taste fresh in my mouth. When the world goes flat, bring me back to the place where You feed me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Family Action Item

Sit down together and walk through the timeline of your family's "tastes" of God's goodness — Baptisms, confirmations, weddings, hard times He carried you through, answered prayers. If you have a Baptism candle, family Bible, or photographs from those days, bring them out. Tell the children the stories. Faith grows in the telling.