

KNOWING GOD

OPENING QUESTION

Describe one of the best people you know. What makes them great? Why do you enjoy being with them?

SCRIPTURE

Read Psalm 34

BIG IDEAS

God is good.

Goodness is not something God is good at. Neither is goodness something God simply picks. But God *is* good. That is, His nature and personality traits are the very definition and basis for our understanding of goodness.

But, we live in a world where it's hard to see God's goodness sometimes.

>> *Why is it hard for you to experience God's goodness?*

In Psalm 34, David sings a song of praise to God for His goodness after getting through a pretty rough situation (which you can read about in 1 Samuel 21). That's right, he walked through a rough situation, and sang a song about it. This song gives us 6 doors through which we can walk to experience God's goodness. These doors look like this:

1. Doxology, Not Idolatry
2. Humility, Not Pride (vv. 1-3)
3. Testimony, Not "Why Me." (vv. 4-7)
4. Pleasure, Not Pressure (vv. 8-10)
5. Fear, Not Familiarity (vv. 11-14)
6. Grace, Not Work (vv. 15-22)

>> *Take a moment and open your Bible. Read the Psalm and see if you can find these doors in the passages outlined above.*

>> *Which one of these doors are you struggling most to walk through?*

>> *The sixth door (Grace, not work) is the most important door. Why?*

PRAYER

Take a good, long moment to pray for each other. This would be a good moment to linger in prayer and ask God to reveal His goodness to you all experientially.