

## Living The Word Devotionals

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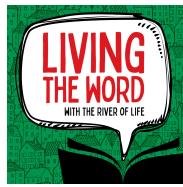
# Source of Goodness



By Katie Cooper

*Matthew 7:11 "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in Heaven give good things to those who ask him!"*

This powerful verse reveals essential truth about both the nature of people and the nature of God. This month we are looking at goodness, and this verse is a picture of God as our source of goodness. Let's back track a little to verse 8-11 "For everyone

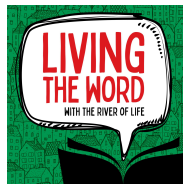


*who asks receives, and to the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. For which of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in Heaven give good things to those who ask him!"*

Jesus is painting a beautiful analogy of God as our heavenly father by using an example of a human relationship we all know. The parent child relationship. He says if you child, who you care for, provide for, advocate for asks you for something to eat would you be cruel and give the something they both cannot eat and actually would hurt them if they tried? My guess is that Jesus wanted to the response in their hearts to be an instant "No! I would not do that to My child! That is cruel!"

Jesus is revealing a little something about human nature. He is saying even good parents are evil, "if you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in Heaven give good things to those who ask him!" We can turn to Romans 3:10-12 and see that all human beings are sinful by nature. It says "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands, no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good."

Sin has made our hearts evil. So, this is the contrast if even in sinfulness most human parents provide the best they can for their children. **How much more** will God, who is the source of goodness, give not just what is needed but Jesus says "good things."



*God as our heavenly father is the source of all good things. Just in his nature alone he is Just, kind, loving, holy, merciful, gracious, wise, patient, truthful, faithful, and good. In him all good things find their origin.*

*Do you see God this way? Your loving heavenly father who desires to give you good things? Take a moment and think on and thank him for the good things in your life! I guarantee if you start to think about it there is so much! If you find yourself not knowing God has your Father and you want to more contact us at The River of Life we would love to talk with you or answer questions.*

*Christian let's make some moves in bringing everything to our heavenly father. Let's pray*