God Family Country

GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

Choose to See the Good

Speaker: Wanda Gardner

Scripture quotations are from the King James Version (KJV).

Highlighted Scripture

- **Philippians 4:8 (KJV)**

  "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

  Paul places this instruction alongside prayer, thanksgiving, and putting faith into practice. Truth comes first: seeing the good does not require denying wrong. Wanda applies this to relationships, inviting us to notice a person's good qualities instead of allowing one fault to fill our view.

- **Matthew 12:34 (KJV)**

  "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

  Jesus confronts harmful speech that reveals the heart's condition. His point goes deeper than speaking politely: our words expose what is within us. As we ask God to change our hearts, we can examine the attitudes behind the way we talk about others.

Discussion Questions

- Wanda compares a person's fault to a black dot on a page. When has one irritation kept you from noticing the rest of someone's character?
- Philippians 4:8 begins with what is true. How can you appreciate someone's good qualities while still addressing a real disagreement honestly?
- What do your recurring words about another person reveal about the thoughts you have been rehearsing?
- Wanda laughs about never disagreeing with George, then immediately says that is not true. How does honest humor help make room for both affection and imperfection?
- Wanda expresses gratitude for the devotionals that have helped her. Whose faithful contribution have you benefited from but rarely acknowledged?

Reflection Challenge

For the next three days, practice seeing one familiar person more fully. When an irritation returns to mind, bring it honestly to God, then deliberately notice what is also true, good, and worthy of thanks about that person.

Ask yourself:

- Am I describing a specific concern, or making one fault the whole story?
- What kindness, effort, or faithfulness have I overlooked?
- Does my next response need appreciation, a calm conversation, an apology, or wise help?

Try this:

- Write down three specific good qualities or actions you have genuinely observed in this person.
- Thank the person for one of them, without attaching a complaint to the encouragement.
- If a concern needs attention, describe it plainly and respectfully. Seeing good does not mean excusing harm or avoiding needed boundaries.
- At the end of each day, ask God to show you how your thoughts shaped your words and where you can respond differently tomorrow.

Remember

- One fault does not tell the whole story of a person.
- Christian encouragement is grounded in truth, not denial.
- Disagreement and genuine appreciation can exist together.
- Our words reveal our hearts; we need God's help within.
- Specific gratitude can turn something good you notice into encouragement someone hears.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the people who bring good into our lives. Forgive us for reducing them to their faults. Help us dwell on what is true and worthy of praise, and change the attitudes that make our words harsh. Where a concern needs attention, give us honesty, wisdom, and kindness. Open our eyes to overlooked faithfulness, and help us express sincere gratitude today.

In Jesus' name, Amen.