



The Case for Goodness

1. We are saved by grace not by works.

Ephesians 2:8 *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.*

2. We are saved to do good works.

Ephesians 2:10 *For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

Matthew 5:16 *In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*

What does it mean to “Let your light shine?”

1. We think the best life is to “tell people off.”

The better life is to overlook an offense.

Proverbs 19:11 *A man's wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.*

2. We think the best life is to strike back, harder.

The better life is to turn the other cheek.

Matthew 5:39 *But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.*

3. We think the best life is to stand your ground.

The better life is to go the extra mile.

Matthew 5:41 *If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.*

4. We think the best life is watching your enemy fail.

The better life is helping your enemy succeed.

Romans 12:20 . . . *"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."*

21 *Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.*

Final thoughts:

1. Practice intentional acts of goodness
2. Practice sustaining acts of goodness

3. Practice sacrificial acts of goodness
4. Practice God glorifying acts of goodness