

Study Guide: The Goodness of God

Main Idea

God's goodness is not simply one attribute among many—it is the very essence of who He is. His goodness is revealed in creation, in His care for all people, and especially in His relationship with His children. Even in suffering, we can trust that His plans are good and that He is present with us.

Scripture Foundations

- **Psalm 145:8–17**
 - **James 1:16–18**
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1. Understanding the Goodness of God

What Is God's Goodness?

- God's goodness represents everything He is, everything He has, and everything He desires for us to experience.
- It includes His **love, mercy, grace, kindness, patience, and blessings**.
- God consistently acts for the benefit of others.

Quotes to Consider:

- *Martin Luther*: God daily preserves and defends us against all evil, out of pure love and goodness.
 - *Wilhelmus a Brakel*: Goodness is the very essence of God's being, even if there were no creature to receive it.
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2. The Nature and Extent of God's Goodness

a. God's Goodness to All Creation

- **Psalm 145:9, 15–16** – The Lord is good to everyone; He provides for all living things.
- **Psalm 136:25** – He gives food to every creature.
- **Matthew 6:26** – The Father feeds even the birds.

- **Job 38:41** – God provides food when young birds cry out.

b. God's Goodness to Unbelievers (Common Grace)

- **Matthew 5:45** – God causes the sun to rise and the rain to fall on both good and evil people.
- **Acts 14:17** – God provides rain and crops, filling hearts with joy.
- **Psalm 73** – Sometimes unbelievers seem to prosper more than believers, yet God's goodness prevails.

c. God's Goodness to His Children

1. **General Goodness**
 - **Matthew 7:7** – Ask, seek, knock—God delights in meeting our needs.
 - **James 1:17** – Every good and perfect gift comes from God.
 2. **Specific Goodness**
 - In His **plans**: **Jeremiah 29:11**; **Ephesians 2:10**; **Romans 12:2**
 - In His **providence**: **Romans 8:28**
 - In His **protection**: **Nahum 1:7**
 - In His **patience & forgiveness**: **Exodus 34:6–7**; **Psalm 145:8–9**
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3. Struggling with God's Goodness

- Believers often face adversity: sickness, suffering, unanswered questions.
 - **John 17:14–16** – We are in the world but not of it.
 - **2 Timothy 3:12** – All who live godly lives will face persecution.
 - **Psalm 27:13–14** – Wait for the Lord; trust in His goodness.
 - **Psalm 31:19–20** – God stores up goodness for those who trust Him.
 - **2 Corinthians 1:3–5** – God comforts us so we can comfort others.
 - **Psalm 145:14** – The Lord helps the defeated and troubled.
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4. Responding to the Goodness of God

a. Praise Him

- **Psalm 107:1, 8** – Give thanks for His enduring love.
- **Psalm 103:1–5** – Praise God for forgiveness, healing, redemption, mercy, and provision.
- **Ephesians 1:3** – We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

b. Live for Him

- **Ephesians 2:10** – We are God’s masterpiece, created for good works.
- **Psalm 145:10–11** – God’s people declare His glory and power.

c. Thank Him

- Thank Him for His abundance, grace, mercy, protection, provision, healing, and guidance.

Reflection & Discussion Questions

1. How have you personally experienced the goodness of God in your life?
2. Which Scripture in this study most reassures you of God’s goodness?
3. How would you encourage someone who doubts God’s goodness in the midst of suffering?
4. What is one way you can respond in praise, obedience, or thanksgiving this week?

Key Takeaway

God’s goodness is not dependent on our circumstances but is rooted in His eternal character. In creation, in common grace, in His care for His children, and even in trials—He is good, and His goodness calls forth our praise and trust.



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Grace of God

Session 3: Attributes of God

Moreine Fontenelle

FAITH ASSEMBLY SUMMER RETREAT 2025

Participant Guide: The Grace of God

Session Overview

God's grace is the heartbeat of our salvation. It is free, undeserved, powerful, and transforming. In this session, we explore what grace is, what it's not, and how it changes how we live and love.

Scripture Passages

Read and reflect on these passages:

1 Corinthians 15:10 – How has grace shaped Paul's story? How has it shaped yours?_

Titus 2:11–15 – What does this passage teach you about grace and godly living?

Write down any key words or phrases that stood out to you:

Participant Guide: The Grace of God

Key Truths About God's Grace

1. God's Grace Is Free

- It cannot be earned or deserved. (Rom. 11:6; Eph. 2:9)
- We are saved by grace alone.

Reflection: Why is it hard for many to accept grace as a gift?

2. God's Grace Is Eternal

- God planned it before time began. (2 Tim. 1:9)
- His grace isn't a reaction—it's part of His eternal plan.

Reflection: What does it mean that God chose you before you ever performed?

3. God's Grace Is Sovereign

- Grace is never owed, always gifted. (Ex. 33:19)
- God gives it freely, not based on human effort.

Reflection: What does God's sovereign grace reveal about His character?

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4. God's Grace Is Far-Reaching

- It appears to all people: across cultures, classes, and nations. (Titus 2:11)

Reflection:

How does God's global grace affect the way we treat others?

5. God's Grace Is Mediated Through Christ

- Grace comes through Christ alone. (1 Tim. 2:5; Rom. 5:15)
- Without Christ, we have nothing.

Reflection: Is Christ your only source of hope and identity?

6. God's Grace Is Saving

- Grace rescues from sin and wrath. (Rom. 5:20)
- It transforms us into Christ's likeness. (2 Cor. 3:18)

Reflection: In what areas is God's grace currently transforming your life?

Quotes to Reflect On:

"Faith is a living, unshakeable confidence in God's grace... makes a person joyful, confident, and happy."
—Martin Luther

"Repentance... unless grace shall first renew the heart."
—Charles Spurgeon

Participant Guide: The Grace of God

Personal Application Challenge

Choose at least one action step for this week:

- Memorize Titus 2:11–12
- Write a gratitude letter to God for His grace
- Share your grace testimony with someone
- Offer grace to someone who doesn't deserve it
- Spend 10 minutes a day praising God for grace alone

Closing Prayer

Ask the Lord:

- “Renew my heart with the wonder of Your grace.”
- “Help me live as one truly transformed by grace.”
- “Make me a vessel of grace to others.”

Notes

(Use this space to jot down anything God highlights during the session.)

“For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, ...” — Titus 2:11–12 NLT