All In with Jordan Easley

Goodness and Faithfulness

Fruit Of The Spirit | Week 3 | Galatians 5

NOTES INTRODUCTION As we continue our series studying the fruit of the Spirit, we're going to talk today about goodness. But before we dive into that, there's one important thing we need to understand. Without God, there is no good. And that truth applies to our lives as well. Without God in our life, there will be no good in our life. Now, we can do good things. We can make good decisions. And we can try to be good people, but unless we're God's people, we'll never truly be good people. So what does a life of godly goodness look like? Let's find out together. **KEY POINTS** 1. The good life is one that does what is right. According to God Himself, the first step of goodness is "to act justly." Now, when a person is just, he always does what is right. Let me tell you why it's important that we, as believers, do what is right. One reason is that the lost world around us is watching, and they're watching to see if the Jesus in you is real. If you claim to be a good person who's been changed by a good God and filled with His goodness through His Spirit, and yet, you never seem to do the right thing, what message is that sending? You may be the only Bible some people read and the only Christian some people know. That's why I believe the Lord told us "to act justly" and "to do what is right." Why? So, the world would be able to see the goodness of God through our lives. 2. The good life is one that promotes forgiveness. The second thing the Lord requires is that we "love faithfulness" or as other translations read, we should, "love mercy." That word in the Hebrew is the word hesed. That's a word that's used over 250 times in the Old Testament, and really, it's one of the most difficult words to translate from Hebrew into English. Sometimes hesed is translated as mercy. Other times it's translated as grace. Sometimes love. Sometimes faithfulness. Sometimes lovingkindness. But really, this word hesed is all of those things and more simply tied into a single word.

GoAllIn.tv Fruit Of The Spirit

All In with Jordan Easley

Goodness and Faithfulness

Fruit Of The Spirit | Week 3 | Galatians 5

I want you to notice that when God uses this word for faithfulness or mercy, He doesn't just tell us to be faithful or to be merciful. He tells us to LOVE faithfulness and to LOVE mercy. I think the reason is when we love faithfulness, we will live faithfully. When we love mercy, we will live mercy. And that is how a good life of forgiveness comes about, when we love and live faithfulness and when we love and live mercy.

3. The good life is one that produces faithfulness.

How do we produce faithfulness in our lives? Well, let's look at Micah 6:8 for the answer to that question: "Mankind, he has told each of you what is good and what it is the Lord requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God."

I believe this is the secret and the real source of goodness in our lives: it's walking humbly with God. What this tells us is that being good comes before doing good. It's like every single part of the fruit of the Spirit. You can't be like God until you truly know God. You can't be loving or joyful or peaceful or patient or kind or good unless you are walking with the God who's the source of all these things. But if you ARE walking with God, you can't help but be faithful in exemplifying each of these characteristics. Why? Because our God gives us access to His faithfulness as a part of His fruit.

NOTES

GoAllIn.tv Fruit Of The Spirit

All In with Jordan Easley

Goodness and Faithfulness

Fruit Of The Spirit | Week 3 | Galatians 5

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. Do you default to doing the right thing when given the chance? Or do you often find it difficult to do the right thing?
- 2. What is a practical way you can live with mercy?
- 3. How can you take steps to walk humbly with God this week so that you can produce the fruit that He gives you through His Holy Spirit?

GoAllIn.tv Fruit Of The Spirit