

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY. NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD, THERE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TODAY.

>> WELCOME TO GOOD NEWS TODAY, THE PROGRAM WHERE YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND GOOD NEWS, NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD.

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY

>> I'M MARK TESKE, YOUR HOST FOR GOOD NEWS TODAY. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR JOINING US, AND WE'VE GOT A GREAT PROGRAM. HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP. WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THE NEED TO TRUST GOD IN OUR LIVES. WE'RE GOING TO BEGIN WITH OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, AND THAT CONSISTS OF OUR SCRIPTURE READING, BEAUTIFUL SINGING, AND A BRIEF STUDY OF OUR SCRIPTURE. TODAY WE'LL BE IN LUKE CHAPTER 5, LOOKING AT VERSES 4 THROUGH 8, A PASSAGE WHERE JESUS TELLS SOME FISHERMEN HOW TO DO THEIR JOB. GET OUT YOUR BIBLES, TURN TO LUKE 5. I'M GOING TO MEET YOU THERE IN JUST A MOMENT. FOLLOWING OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, TROY SPRADLIN WILL BE REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT CATEGORIZING DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEOPLE. JIM DEARMAN WILL JOIN US WITH SOME SOUND WORDS ABOUT MAKING RESOLUTIONS. WE'LL JOIN FREDDIE CLAYTON AS HE'S WALKING AND TALKING IN THE LIGHT. TODAY HE'S CHALLENGING US TO DIG INTO THE WORD OF GOD AND FIND OUT THE TRUTH. IN OUR FINAL SEGMENT, WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR GUYTON MONTGOMERY AND TROY SPRADLIN: IF GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING, THEN WHAT'S THE POINT IN PRAYING OR TALKING TO HIM AT ALL? WELL, I HOPE YOU HAVE YOUR BIBLES OPENED UP TO LUKE 5, WHERE WE READ BEGINNING AT VERSE 4, WHEN HE HAD STOPPED SPEAKING, HE SAID TO SIMON, LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP, AND LET DOWN YOUR NETS FOR A CATCH. BUT SIMON ANSWERED AND SAID TO HIM, MASTER, WE HAVE TOILED ALL NIGHT AND CAUGHT NOTHING. NEVERTHELESS AT YOUR WORD, I WILL LET DOWN THE NET. AND WHEN THEY HAD DONE THIS, THEY CAUGHT A GREAT NUMBER OF FISH. AND THEIR NET WAS BREAKING, SO THEY SIGNALLED TO THEIR PARTNERS IN THE OTHER BOAT TO COME AND HELP THEM. AND THEY CAME AND FILLED BOTH THE BOATS SO THAT THEY BEGAN TO SINK. WHEN SIMON PETER SAW IT, HE FELL DOWN AT JESUS' KNEES, SAYING, DEPART FROM ME, FOR I AM A SINFUL MAN, O LORD!

>> (SINGING)

>> HERE IN LUKE CHAPTER 5, WE'RE NEAR THE BEGINNING OF JESUS' MINISTRY. AND LUKE'S GOSPEL ACCOUNT GIVES US MORE DETAILS ON THE SELECTION OF THE TWELVE THAN THE OTHER THREE GOSPEL ACCOUNTS. AND HERE, WE'RE SEEING THE CALLING OF THOSE FIRST DISCIPLES. NOW, JESUS HAD JUST FINISHED TEACHING A MULTITUDE ON THE SHORE; AND HE DID THAT WHILE HE WAS STANDING IN PETER'S BOAT THAT WAS PUSHED OFF SHORE JUST A LITTLE WAYS. AND AFTER JESUS FINISHED TEACHING, HE TELLS PETER AND THE OTHERS - THAT WOULD INCLUDE JAMES AND JOHN, WE SEE THEM IN VERSE 10 - THEY HAD BEEN FISHING ALL NIGHT AND CAUGHT NOTHING. SO JESUS AT THE END OF THIS LESSON TOLD THEM, LET DOWN YOUR NETS. GO OUT THERE AND TRY IT AGAIN AND CATCH FISH. NO DOUBT THEY WERE EXHAUSTED. THEY'D BEEN FISHING ALL NIGHT, AND I THINK A LITTLE BIT FRUSTRATED FROM NOT CATCHING ANYTHING. MY GRANDFATHER USED TO SAY THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FISHING AND CATCHING. THE FISHING MAY BE GOOD; THE CATCHING NOT SO GOOD. BUT MORE THAN JUST TRIVIAL GOING OUT TO HAVE FUN, THIS WAS THEIR LIVELIHOOD. BUT THEY WENT OUT AND OBEYED JESUS ANYWAYS AND LET DOWN THEIR NETS. THEY CAUGHT SO MANY FISH THAT THEIR NETS WERE BREAKING. THEY HAD TO BRING IN ANOTHER BOAT. BOTH BOATS WERE FILLED TO THE POINT OF BEING ABOUT TO SINK, MORE THAN THEY WERE USED TO CARRYING. THIS

WAS A MIRACULOUS CATCH OF FISH. AND WE SEE PETER'S RESPONSE TO THIS. HE SAYS, DEPART FROM ME, FOR I AM A SINFUL MAN! YOU SEE, HE REALIZED HIS OWN SINFULNESS. THIS IS SIMILAR TO ISAIAH 6:5, WHERE ISAIAH SAID, WOE IS ME, FOR I AM UNDONE! WHEN HE SAW GOD. THAT'S THE NATURAL REACTION WHEN A SINFUL MAN IS IN THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY GOD. AND THEN HE CALLED JESUS LORD. THAT'S A WORD THAT MEANS MASTER, THE PERSON THAT I OBEY. SO WHEN WE PUT THIS TOGETHER, PETER BELIEVED WHAT JESUS SAID TO DO, THEY WENT OUT AND DID IT, AND THEN AFTERWARDS HE PLEDGED HIS FUTURE OBEDIENCE AS WELL. THAT'S WHAT HE MEANT BY CALLING JESUS LORD. SO AS WE SEEK TO APPLY THIS LESSON TO OURSELVES, WELL, NUMBER ONE, WE CAN SEE THAT SOMETIMES WE NEED TO GET RID OF OUR PRIDE. WE HAD JESUS, AN AMATEUR, TELLING THE PROFESSIONAL FISHERMEN HOW TO DO THEIR JOB. BUT YOU SEE, OBEDIENCE TO GOD TAKES HUMILITY ON OUR PART. TOO OFTEN TIMES, WE WANT TO TRUST OUR OWN WISDOM, OUR OWN EDUCATION, OUR OWN EXPERIENCE, INSTEAD OF LOOKING TO SEE WHAT GOD SAYS. HE'S NOT TELLING US HOW TO FISH; HE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE OUR LIVES. AND WE NEED TO PAY ATTENTION AND OBEY HIM. THE THOU SHALT NOTS, THOSE ARE IN SCRIPTURE FOR A REASON. WE NEED TO TRUST HIM. HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT. THE COMMANDS OF THOU SHALT, THOSE ARE THERE FOR A REASON AS WELL. WE NEED TO TRUST HIM AND DO THOSE THINGS, BECAUSE HE DOES INDEED KNOW WHAT'S BEST. FAITH INVOLVES HEARING, BELIEVING, AND DOING. A TRUE LIVING BIBLICAL FAITH LEADS A PERSON TO OBEDIENCE. JAMES WRITES BY INSPIRATION IN CHAPTER 2, VERSE 17, FAITH BY ITSELF, IF IT DOES NOT HAVE WORKS, IT'S DEAD. IN VERSE 24, HE SAYS A MAN IS JUSTIFIED BY WORKS AND NOT BY FAITH ONLY. YOU SEE, BIBLICAL FAITH IS BELIEVING GOD SO MUCH THAT IT AFFECTS OUR ACTIONS. NOW, THESE ACTIONS ARE NOT WORKS OF MERIT, EPHESIANS 2:8-9; BUT THEY'RE ACTIONS OF OBEDIENCE, EPHESIANS 2:10. WE NEED TO LISTEN TO GOD AND OBEY HIM. THE BLESSINGS COME TO US AS A RESULT OF THAT. FOR THOSE FISHERMEN, IT WAS JUST FISH; FOR US, IT CAN BE ETERNAL SALVATION. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF ETERNAL SALVATION FOR ALL THAT OBEY HIM HEBREWS 5:9. AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR US TODAY. IT'S TIME TO HEAD OVER TO THE WORKSHOP, WHERE TROY SPRADLIN REPAIRS WHAT IS BROUGHT TO HIM. TODAY HE'S REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT CATEGORIZING PEOPLE.

>> YOU KNOW, IT'S TRULY SAD HOW PEOPLE HAVE SUCH A TERRIBLE TENDENCY TO LABEL AND CATEGORIZE OTHER PEOPLE. I MEAN, IT HAPPENS FROM GRADE SCHOOL ALL THE WAY UP TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. WE HAVE THIS UNFORTUNATE INCLINATION TO SEPARATE OURSELVES INTO VARIOUS DIVISIONS LIKE CLIQUES AND STATUSES AND GENDERS AND AGES, LOCATIONS OR ETHNICITY, RACE, POLITICAL AFFILIATION, SOCIAL ISSUES, AND ON AND ON AND ON AND ON. AND SADLY, MOST OF THOSE PARTITIONINGS OF THE HUMAN RACE RESULT IN WIDESPREAD ILL FEELINGS OR HARASSMENT OR EVEN DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE BETWEEN THE VARIOUS GROUPS. AND WE ALLOW THOSE SEPARATIONS TO DICTATE OUR PERCEIVED VALUE OF A CERTAIN PERSON OR HOW WE'RE GOING TO INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER AND EVEN LIVE OUR LIVES. BUT DESPITE ALL THOSE VARIOUS DIVISIONS THAT WE LIKE TO MAKE, GOD DOES NOT SEE US IN THOSE WAYS AT ALL. SO WHY DON'T WE REPAIR OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THIS AND SEE WHAT THE BIBLE HAS TO SAY? AND IF WE SIMPLY LOOK INTO THE BIBLE, WE'RE GOING TO LEARN THAT GOD HAS INDEED DIVIDED PEOPLE INTO DIFFERENT GROUPS; BUT HIS DIVISION HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ANY OF THE THINGS THAT I MENTIONED EARLIER. YOU SEE, HIS DIVISION HAS MORE TO DO WITH HIS WILL AND THAT WHICH IS SPIRITUAL. HE MAKES A SEPARATION BASED ON OUR RESPONSE TO SOMETHING THAT HE HAS PROVIDED TO ALL OF MANKIND, AND IT'S SOMETHING THAT WE MUST DO. BASICALLY, WE HAVE A CHOICE CONCERNING WHICH TYPE OF PERSON WE WILL BE. AND THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS, THE BIBLE ONLY MENTIONS TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE. FOR EVERYBODY IN

THE ENTIRE WORLD, THERE'S ONLY TWO KINDS: THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE LOST AND THOSE WHO ARE SAVED ACCORDING TO PASSAGES LIKE LUKE 19:10. WE COULD ALSO SAY THAT THERE ARE THOSE WHO WILL RECEIVE CONDEMNATION AND THOSE WHO WILL RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE ACCORDING TO PASSAGES LIKE MATTHEW 25:46, JOHN 3:16, AND ROMANS 6:23. THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO DIFFERENTIATION BETWEEN RACES OR ETHNICITIES, AGES, POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS, GENDERS, OR ANYTHING ELSE TO THOSE WHO WANT ACCESS TO GOD'S FREE GIFT OF SALVATION. AND EVEN THOUGH BACK IN BIBLE TIMES, PEOPLE WERE MAKING SEPARATIONS, THE INSPIRED WRITER PAUL POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS NEITHER JEW NOR GREEK, THERE'S NEITHER SLAVE NOR FREE, THERE IS NEITHER MALE NOR FEMALE; FOR YOU ARE ALL ONE IN CHRIST JESUS, GALATIANS 3:28. SO ALL OF THE DIVISIONS THAT WE MAKE ARE COMPLETELY UNMERITED AND UNNECESSARY. WE SHOULD AND MUST SEE PEOPLE HOW GOD SEES US: BY CONSIDERING THE STATUS OF THEIR SOUL. ARE THEY LOST OR ARE THEY SAVED? AND IF THEY'RE LOST, WE CERTAINLY DON'T SHUN THEM OR SEPARATE OURSELVES FROM THEM, BUT INSTEAD SEEK TO HELP THEM BECOME SAVED, BECAUSE GOD DESIRES ALL MEN TO BE SAVED AND COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH, 1ST TIMOTHY 2:4. NOW, WE NEED TO NOTE THAT WHILE SCRIPTURE ONLY SPEAKS OF TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE, THOSE THAT ARE SAVED AND THOSE THAT ARE LOST, THERE IS INDEED A THIRD TYPE THAT WE CAN INFER FROM PROPER BIBLE STUDY. AND THAT TYPE OF PERSON, IF YOU WILL, IS ONE WHO WOULD BE CONSIDERED SAFE. THESE WOULD BE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT LEARNED TO DISCERN BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL ACCORDING TO HEBREWS 5:14. AND SMALL CHILDREN OR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED WOULD FALL INTO THAT CATEGORY. YOU SEE, CHILDREN ARE INNOCENT OF SIN UNTIL THEY REACH THE AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY BEFORE GOD. WHEN THEY GROW TO UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPTS OF SIN AND REPENTANCE AND SALVATION, WELL, THEN THEY MUST RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL. NOW, THE BIBLE DOES NOT ACTUALLY USE THE WORDS SAFE TO DESCRIBE CHILDREN OR THOSE WITHOUT THE CAPACITY FOR DISCERNMENT, AND TECHNICALLY, PEOPLE WHO ARE SAFE FALL UNDER THE SAVED CATEGORY; HOWEVER, TO BE SAVED MEANS TO BE RESCUED FROM CONDEMNATION OF SIN ACCORDING TO COLOSSIANS 1:13-14. WELL, CHILDREN AND THOSE WITH COGNITIVE DISABILITIES DO NOT NEED TO BE RESCUED BECAUSE THEY ARE YET WITH SIN. THEREFORE, FROM WHAT WE LEARN DIRECTLY FROM AND ARE ABLE TO INFER FROM SCRIPTURE, THERE ARE ONLY MAYBE THREE TYPES OF PEOPLE IN GOD'S EYES AND NO OTHER: THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE LOST AND THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE SAVED; AND THOSE WITHIN THE SAVED ARE SOME WHO ARE CONSIDERED SAFE. OF THOSE THREE CATEGORIES, WHICH ONE ARE YOU?

>> IF WE'RE GOING TO CHARACTERIZE PEOPLE, WE SHOULD TRUST GOD AND DO IT LIKE HE DOES. THAT ALLOWS US TO DO WHAT'S BEST FOR THEIR SOUL. THANKS, TROY. WELL, IT'S TIME TO GRAB A PIECE OF PAPER AND SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH. WE'RE ABOUT TO GIVE YOU OUR CONTACT INFORMATION. AND THERE'S A COUPLE OF THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH IT. YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR OUR FREE BIBLE COURSE THAT WE OFFER THROUGH THE MAIL. WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU ENROLL IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO ALREADY. YOU CAN ALSO SEND US ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE. WE'D LOVE TO ANSWER THOSE QUESTIONS, AND WE MAY DO SO DURING ONE OF OUR PROGRAMS. WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. IN JUST A MOMENT, WE'LL HAVE A VISIT WITH JIM DEARMAN.

>> YOU MAY HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT GOOD NEWS TODAY. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE FREE BIBLE STUDY MATERIALS, PLEASE CONTACT US. OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. AGAIN, THAT'S GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. YOU MAY PREFER TO E-MAIL US AT GOODNEWSTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. THAT'S GOODNEWSTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. OR CALL US

TOLL-FREE AT 1-877-384-7221. THAT'S 1-877-384-7221. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. HEARING FROM OUR AUDIENCE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TO US.

>> THE EASIEST WAY TO ENROLL IN OUR BIBLE COURSE IS ON OUR WEBSITE AT GNTTV.ORG. JUST CLICK WHERE IT SAYS BIBLE COURSE, FILL OUT THE INFORMATION, AND WE'LL MAIL IT TO YOU. DID YOU KNOW THAT GOOD NEWS TODAY CAN BE HEARD THROUGH OUR CHANNEL ON TRUTH.FM? TRUTH.FM IS A GROUP OF STREAMING RADIO STATIONS THAT OFFER GREAT BIBLICAL PROGRAMMING FOR LISTENERS AROUND THE WORLD. IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO ALREADY, CHECK OUT THE GOOD NEWS TODAY CHANNEL. NOW HERE'S JIM DEARMAN WITH SOME SOUND WORDS FOR US ABOUT MAKING RESOLUTIONS.

> RESOLUTIONS: IT'S EASY TO MAKE THEM AND EASIER TO BREAK THEM, ISN'T IT? SOME RESOLUTIONS ARE NOT REALLY THAT IMPORTANT, ANYWAY. WE TEND TO MAKE A LOT OF INSIGNIFICANT RESOLUTIONS, DON'T WE? THERE IS A RESOLUTION MENTIONED IN A GREAT OLD HYMN. IT SAYS, I AM RESOLVED NO LONGER TO LINGER, CHARMED BY THE WORLD'S DELIGHTS; THINGS THAT ARE HIGHER, THINGS THAT ARE NOBLER, THESE HAVE ALLURED MY SIGHT. THAT GREAT HYMN DEPICTS A RESOLUTION OF HEART TO TURN TO GOD AND TO HIGHER SPIRITUAL THINGS. BUT YOU KNOW, WE'VE BECOME SO ALLURED BY THE WORLD THAT HIGHER THINGS ARE NOT PURSUED AS THEY SHOULD BE. ANOTHER LINE IN THAT HYMN GOES LIKE THIS: I WILL HASTEN TO HIM, HASTEN SO GLAD AND FREE. JESUS, GREATEST, HIGHEST, I WILL COME TO THEE. WHEN ONE HASTENS TO HIM BY OBEYING THE GOSPEL: BELIEVING, REPENTING, CONFESSING HIM AS THE CHRIST, AND BEING BURIED IN BAPTISM FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS, THE LORD ADDS THAT OBEDIENT SOUL TO HIS KINGDOM, THE CHURCH, WHERE ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS ARE FOUND. THE RESOLUTION TO FOLLOW CHRIST IS A RESOLUTION YOU WILL NEVER REGRET.

>> RESOLVE TO FOLLOW CHRIST. THAT'S EXCELLENT ADVICE. THANKS, JIM. HAVE YOU EVER MISSED AN EPISODE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY AND WISH YOU COULD WATCH IT? THERE'S A FEW WAYS YOU CAN DO THAT: THROUGH OUR WEBSITE, OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL, OR YOU CAN DOWNLOAD OUR APP, WATCH IT ON YOUR PHONE OR TABLET. IF YOU DOWNLOAD THE ROKU OR APPLE TV APP, YOU CAN WATCH IT ON YOUR TELEVISION. PROGRAM'S THERE EVERY SUNDAY. FREDDIE CLAYTON JOINS US, AND HE'S CHALLENGING US TO STUDY THE WORD OF GOD AND PUT ASIDE OUR PRECONCEIVED IDEAS.

>> WE READ IN 1ST PETER 3:15, BUT SANCTIFY THE LORD GOD IN YOUR HEARTS AND ALWAYS BE READY TO GIVE A DEFENSE TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS YOU A REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT IS IN YOU, WITH MEEKNESS AND FEAR. WHY DO YOU BELIEVE WHAT YOU BELIEVE? WHY DO YOU DO WHAT YOU DO? I HEARD THE OBSERVATION MADE MANY YEARS AGO THAT PEOPLE ARE WHAT THEY ARE RELIGIOUSLY FOR THE SAME REASON THEY ARE WHAT THEY ARE POLITICALLY: THEY WERE BORN THAT WAY. FRIEND, THAT'S NOT A COMPLIMENT. WE WANT TO CHALLENGE YOUR THINKING. WE WANT YOU TO HAVE THE DESIRE TO STUDY GOD'S WORD FOR YOURSELF AND LEARN WHAT THE SCRIPTURE SAYS. WITH THIS IN MIND, YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT HEAVEN AND HELL ARE REAL PLACES. MANY DO NOT BELIEVE IN THE REALITY OF HEAVEN AND HELL. OTHERS BELIEVE THAT HEAVEN IS REAL, BUT THAT HELL IS NOT A REAL PLACE. HOWEVER, THE BIBLE TEACHES THE REALITY OF BOTH. HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF REST FOR THOSE WHO ARE RIGHTEOUS BEFORE GOD. IT IS A PLACE OF

EVERLASTING LIFE, HEBREWS 4:1-11. BUT AS REAL AS HEAVEN IS, HELL IS ALSO. HELL IS A PLACE OF ETERNAL PUNISHMENT FOR THOSE WHO HAVE REJECTED GOD, A PLACE WHERE THE WORM DOES NOT DIE AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED, MARK 9:48. ALONG THESE SAME LINES, IT ALSO MIGHT SURPRISE YOU THAT THERE IS A DAY OF JUDGMENT COMING. IN ACTS 17:30-31, PAUL REMINDED THE ATHENIANS OF THIS VERY MATTER. WE WILL ALL GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF OURSELVES TO GOD ON THAT DAY. WE MUST ALL APPEAR BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST, 2ND CORINTHIANS 5:10. ARE YOU READY FOR THE JUDGMENT DAY? THE BIBLE TEACHES US TO REPENT OF OUR SINS, TO CONFESS THE NAME OF CHRIST, AND TO BE BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF OUR SINS. IT IS OUR PLEA THAT YOU SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES DAILY AND FIND OUT WHETHER THE THINGS YOU HAVE BEEN TAUGHT ARE TRUE. TAKE ONLY GOD'S WORD AS THE FINAL AUTHORITY. THIS IS THE ONLY SAFE COURSE TO FOLLOW.

>> WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, WE NEED TO DECIDE WHO WE'RE GOING TO LISTEN TO IN RELIGIOUS MATTERS: GOD OR SOMEONE ELSE. THE WAY THAT WE LISTEN TO GOD IS BY FOLLOWING HIS WORD. THANKS, FREDDIE. IF YOU LISTEN TO PODCASTS, WE HAVE THREE OF THEM AVAILABLE: GOOD NEWS TODAY DAILY DEVOTIONAL TIME, GOOD NEWS TODAY WEEKLY, AND SOUND WORDS WITH JIM DEARMAN. GETTING TO THEM CAN BE A SIMPLE PROCESS. IF YOU HAVE AN AMAZON DEVICE, JUST SAY ALEXA, PLAY THE PODCAST GOOD NEWS TODAY DAILY DEVOTIONAL TIME. OR YOU CAN INSERT THE NAME OF WHATEVER SMART DEVICE YOU HAVE IN YOUR HOME. IN JUST A MOMENT, WE'LL GIVE OUR BIBLE QUESTION TO GUYTON MONTGOMERY AND TROY SPRADLIN.

>> (SINGING)

>> NOW WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR GUYTON AND TROY: IF GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING, THEN WHAT'S THE POINT IN PRAYING OR TALKING TO HIM AT ALL?

>> HEY, TROY. YOUR WIFE'S NAME IS ANDREA.

>> YES.

>> I'VE GOT A QUESTION FOR YOU.

>> OKAY.

>> DOES ANDREA KNOW THAT YOU LOVE HER?

>> SHE DOES KNOW THAT I LOVE HER.

>> DO YOU TELL HER THAT YOU LOVE HER?

>> I DO.

>> WHY, IF SHE KNOWS?

>> TRICK QUESTION THERE GUYT.

>> I MEAN MY WIFE KNOWS, SO I MEAN, I JUST STOPPED TELLING HER ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO.

>> NO, YOU DIDN'T.

>> NO, I DID NOT. WE TELL EACH OTHER EVERY TIME WE HANG UP THE PHONE, WE TELL THEM BEFORE WE LEAVE THE HOUSE, WHEN I WALK IN THE DOOR, BEFORE WE GO TO SLEEP AT NIGHT. I MEAN, I TELL MY WIFE NO TELLING HOW MANY TIMES A DAY I LOVE HER. BUT SHE KNOWS IT, TOO. SO WHY DO WE DO THAT?

>> BECAUSE WE WANT TO MANIFEST THAT, WE WANT TO SHOW THEM THAT LOVE. EVEN THOUGH THEY KNOW IT, YOU STILL WANT TO SHOW IT.

>> DO YOU DO IT BECAUSE SHE EXPECTS YOU TO HAVE TO?

>> NO, I DO IT BECAUSE I LOVE HER. AND SO I WANT HER TO KNOW THAT.

>> IT'S IN MY HEART THAT I WANT TO CONVEY IT TO HER.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> THAT HAS TO DO WITH TODAY'S QUESTION.

>> I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU WERE GOING WITH ALL THIS.

>> IF GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING - AND SO LET'S TALK ABOUT THE OMNISCIENCE OF GOD. IF GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING, THEN WHAT'S THE POINT IN PRAYING OR TALKING TO HIM AT ALL?

>> YEAH, THAT IS A GOOD QUESTION. AND IT IS KIND OF CONFUSING. I MEAN, ESPECIALLY WHENEVER YOU HAVE VERSES LIKE MATTHEW CHAPTER 6 WHEN HE'S TEACHING ABOUT PRAYER. HE EVEN SAYS RIGHT THERE, HE SAYS, THEREFORE, DO NOT BE LIKE THEM, FOR YOUR FATHER KNOWS THE THINGS YOU HAVE NEED BEFORE YOU ASK HIM. I COULD SEE WHERE THE QUESTION COMES FROM.

>> WELL, I WOULD ACTUALLY ANSWER IT WITH WHILE JUSTIFYING THE QUESTION.

>> OKAY.

>> BECAUSE IN JOHN CHAPTER 17, JESUS IS ACTUALLY PRAYING TO GOD; AND IN VERSE 21 IN THIS PRAYER, HE SAYS, THAT THEY ALL MAY BE ONE - TALKING ABOUT HIS DISCIPLES - AS THOU FATHER, ART IN ME AND I IN THEE, THAT THEY ALSO MAY BE ONE IN US, THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE THAT THOU HAST SENT ME. AND SO WHILE JESUS IS PRAYING, HE'S REFERENCING THIS FACT THAT THEY ARE ALREADY ONE. AND GOD ALREADY KNEW, BUT JESUS STILL WOULD GO TO HIM IN PRAYER.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> AND SO MY QUESTION THEN WOULD BE WHY DID JESUS PRAY TO GOD IF THEY'RE ALREADY ONE AND THEY'RE TOGETHER ON EVERYTHING? AND IT'S BECAUSE IT'S AN OUTPOURING OF THE HEART.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> AND IN JOHN CHAPTER 17, IT WAS ACTUALLY IN PREPARATION FOR THE DIFFICULT THINGS WHICH JESUS WAS ABOUT TO FACE. AND HE ACTUALLY FOUND PRAYER TO BE THERAPEUTIC.

>> YES. IT'S FOR OUR BENEFIT. I WOULD GIVE TWO REASONS WHY WE NEED TO PRAY EVEN THOUGH GOD KNOWS OUR HEARTS: AND THAT IS, NUMBER ONE, IT'S

COMMANDED TO. WE'RE COMMANDED TO PRAY. NOT ONLY DID JESUS TELL US TO PRAY, BUT SO DO THE APOSTLES AND THE DISCIPLES.

>> PRAY WITHOUT CEASING.

>> YEAH. EXACTLY. SO IT'S A COMMAND. THE SECOND THING IS, KIND OF GOING ALONG WITH HOW YOU INTRODUCED THIS, IS THAT WE NEED TO MANIFEST IT. I THINK OF ABRAHAM IN GENESIS CHAPTER 22. WHENEVER GOD ASKED ABRAHAM TO SACRIFICE ISAAC, HE GOES TO RAISE THAT KNIFE, AND IN CHAPTER 22, VERSE 12, IT SAYS, DO NOT LAY YOUR HAND ON THE LAD OR DO NOT DO ANYTHING TO HIM, FOR NOW I KNOW THAT YOU FEAR GOD, THAT YOU DID NOT WITHHOLD YOUR SON. SO DID GOD ALREADY KNOW? ABSOLUTELY; BUT HE WANTED ABRAHAM TO MANIFEST IT, TO SHOW IT. AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE SHOULD DO IN OUR PRAYER.

>> EXACTLY. SO DOES GOD KNOW EVERYTHING ALREADY? HE DOES. THERE'S NO DOUBT HE KNOWS OUR HEART, HE KNOWS OUR MIND. BUT PRAYER IS SOMETHING THAT WE DO NOT ONLY BECAUSE IT'S COMMANDED, WHICH IT IS. IT'S NOT BURDENSOME.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> IT'S NOT SOMETHING WE DO BECAUSE WE HAVE TO; IT'S SOMETHING WE DO BECAUSE WE WANT TO. JUST LIKE TELLING OUR WIVES THAT WE LOVE THEM, WE WANT TO COMMUNICATE TO GOD OUR DESIRES, OUR HEART, OUR EMOTIONS THAT ARE THERE, OUR PETITIONS TO HIM. AND IT'S REALLY A GREAT PRIVILEGE THAT WE HAVE AS CHRISTIANS TO BE ABLE TO PRAY TO GOD.

>> AMEN.

>> WE'VE GOT TO LEARN TO LET GO OF OURSELVES AND TRUST GOD. IF THIS IS DIFFICULT FOR YOU, TRY READING THROUGH THE PROVERBS. YOU'LL FIND VERSES SUCH AS CHAPTER 3, VERSES 5 AND 6, TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART. LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING. IN ALL YOUR WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM, AND HE SHALL DIRECT YOUR PATHS. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO ALWAYS CHECK ALL RELIGIOUS TEACHING AGAINST THE WORD OF GOD TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE FOLLOWING HIM, YOU CAN TRUST HIM. SEE IF THESE THINGS ARE SO, ACTS 17:11. IF YOU NEED TO WATCH OR LISTEN TO OUR PROGRAM AGAIN, HAVE SOME EXTRA TIME TO CHECK THOSE SCRIPTURES, YOU CAN DO THAT THROUGH OUR WEBSITE, THROUGH OUR APPS, OR THROUGH OUR PODCASTS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT US. WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU, AND WE JUST MAY ANSWER YOUR QUESTION ON THE PROGRAM. REMEMBER THAT WE LOVE YOU, WE'RE PRAYING FOR YOU, AND WE WANT YOU TO MAKE IT TO HEAVEN.

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY