

7/1/18

TAKE HOME

Speaker: Pastor Al

(Further study on today's message for individuals, families, or small groups)

Title: FRUIT: Goodness!

Passage: Galatians 5:22-23

GETTING STARTED

- What do you consider yourself good at doing?
- How would baby-sitting a two-year old for a week influence your opinion about the goodness or badness of humans in general?
- Is there anything in this week's message that caught your attention, challenged you or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Often you will hear people say that people are "basically good". Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
2. Read Romans 3:9-20. What does that say about mankind's ability to be good? What reasons would you give for describing people as either basically good or basically evil.
3. Read Luke 6:43-45. How does Jesus relate fruit-bearing trees to people and their ability to be good? How is it possible, then, for a person to be good?
4. Read Ephesians 5:8-10. What changes take place in us when we follow Christ? What does goodness have to do with pleasing the Lord?
5. If someone asked you to explain what it means to be good, what would you say? What other words would you use to describe goodness?
6. Read Matthew 5:14-16. What is the ultimate purpose of a believer's goodness?
7. How does the idea of goodness and light in Matt. 5:14-16 relate to Ephesians 5:8-10?

TAKE AWAY

1. If someone was to use descriptive words to describe what you are like to others, what words would they use to describe your "fruit"?
2. What are one or two habits in your life right now that hinder your ability to grow in goodness? How would you like to see the fruit of goodness grow in your life?
3. How can people be praying for you this week?

Additional Resources (www.RightNowMedia.com)

- "God's Goodness in Your Pain" – Matt Chandler
- "The Goodness of God" – Martin Cave
- "Developing Christian Character" (Session 12) – R.C. Sproul

(Check out RightNowMedia.com for more resources. See bulletin for info on how to sign up)

WELCOME TO GATEWAY



July 1, 2018

Each week at Gateway, we have the opportunity to give to a second cause for special projects.

First Sundays - Deacons' Fund (Benevolence)

The special cause today is for those facing times of extraordinary financial need. Your additional gift (specified with your online gift or on the envelope or the memo line of your check) goes to help those of our Gateway family (and beyond) in their times of special need.

Every Sunday

Food items for our Food Pantry

Video sermons are now available online. Visit our website at gatewaymerced.org and click on the "Sermons" tab.

Series: Fruit

Message: Goodness

Scripture: Galatians 5:22-25

“agathosune” - both internal and external goodness

“goodness is love extending; goodness is love reaching out to others”

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-25)

✓ The Bible tells us that _____ is truly good!
“No one is good—except God alone....” (Jesus in Mark 10:18)

- Romans 3:10-18
- Galatians 5:19-21

✓ We don't become “good” by figuring out how to be “good enough” but by receiving the Goodness of Christ by Grace

✓ Then we let that goodness become _____ & _____

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and...He went around doing good.... (Acts 10:38)

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. (Galatians 6:10)

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)

- Have I turned to God, repenting of my part in this world's evil, receiving His goodness?
- If so, is the character of Jesus developing more fully in me the farther I walk w/ Him? Is the fruit of His goodness starting to show up consistently in my life?

- How can we as a church bring God's goodness to our region?
- And how can we bring His goodness wherever we go in the week?
- ✓ What we are being called to is to a) _____, The Only One Who is truly good and is The Source of all goodness...and then b) _____ daily with His Spirit, living by His goodness and joining Him in goodness.
 - Galatians 5:16
 - Psalm 1
 - Ephesians 2:10
 - Philippians 2:12-13
 - Titus 2:11-14
 - Galatians 6:9-10

- What in my character has become truly good by the work of Jesus' Spirit in me...and what aspects need some cleaning & growth?

- Where is God placing me where I have some say in how things are to operate (my home, office, classroom, apartment, business, team, etc.) so that I can influence the production of “goodness”?

- Where can I join Jesus in “doing good” today? This week?

Key: no one but God; our motive, our way of living; return to God, stay in step