

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION

WEEK: OCTOBER 25-31, 2025

SERIES INFO

Rotten: In a world of fake smiles, quick tempers, and shallow love, we're all producing something. Every word, every choice, every action plants something in someone's heart—either life-giving or toxic. But the Spirit grows something different: love when hate comes easy, joy when life feels heavy, peace in the chaos, patience when you're pushed, kindness in a cruel world, goodness when nobody's watching, faithfulness when others walk away, gentleness in a culture that shouts, and self-control when everything says give in. That's not surface-level. That's transformation. And it might be the very thing that marks the difference between being ruled by the mess around you and being fueled by something greater.

PERSONAL FUN FACTS

If you could invent something that would make everyone's life easier, what would it be?

TAKEAWAYS

What were the greatest “takeaways” you had from the message this week about the Holy Spirit producing the fruit of goodness within you?

DISCUSSION

God's Glory ... His Goodness!

Scripture: Exodus 33:18-19; Exodus 34:5-7; 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

This week's spiritual fruit discussion is about “goodness.” We begin our discussion talking about the goodness of God, and we begin in the Old Testament: Exodus 33:18-19; 34:5—7. This is a fascinating text for it is here where God defines His glory in terms of His “goodness.” Moses asks to see God's glory—the Hebrew word here is *kabod*, which means the weightiness of God's glory, or the visible manifestation of His presence and majesty. But God replies, “I will cause all My goodness to pass before you.” This is an incredible insight for us—when Moses asked to see the most awe-inspiring reality of who God is, God revealed His goodness. We can only take this to mean that at the very essence of all that God is ... He is good.

- How is God's goodness different from human goodness?

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- From the above Scriptures, what can be said about God's glory as it pertains to His goodness?

Goodness in Jesus' Life and Ministry

Scripture: Acts 10:38; John 1:14; John 10:11

When we see the life and ministry of Jesus in action, we see the spiritual fruit of goodness personified. He is the living breathing picture of what divine goodness looks like in human form, for He is, according to John 1:14, the embodiment of the glory of God—God's splendor, majesty, and character is on display in the life of Jesus. As Jesus is the revelation of God's goodness, wherever He went, he advanced goodness ... brokenness began to heal, and darkness gave way to light. Every act of healing, every word of truth, and every demonstration of compassion was a revelation of God's goodness.

- What one story in Jesus' life and ministry do you see the goodness of God clearly on display?
- How does the cross of Jesus display the ultimate expression of the goodness of God?
- Jesus restored people's dignity—not just their health. What does that tell us about the nature of divine goodness?

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Goodness: God's Strategy for Evil

Scripture: Genesis 50:20; Romans 12:20; Luke 23:34; Matthew 5:16

"Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good." In essence, is this not what we see the mission of God throughout the entire biblical story being all about? We see it ultimately in Jesus' suffering on the cross; He overcame evil not by calling on a force of angels to retaliate against those who were crucifying Him, but with "redemptive goodness," He responded with the words, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

- How does the goodness of Jesus challenge the way we respond to evil, insult, or injustice in our lives?
- Share why it is so difficult to respond with goodness without the Holy Spirit's help.

APPLICATION AND ASSESSMENT

- Where have I recently experienced the goodness of God personally and how is He inviting me to extend that same goodness to others?
- What do I need to do this week to allow God to cultivate the spiritual fruit of goodness within me?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
Thank you for revealing Your goodness to us—in Your character, in Your mercy, and supremely in the life of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Thank You that goodness is not just a concept, but a living reality that restores, redeems, and transforms. Fill our hearts so that goodness may flow through our words, our decisions, and our actions. Help us to reflect the glory of God by embodying moral integrity, courage, and sacrificial love. Keep us steadfast, Lord, not growing weary in doing good, but trusting that You will bring fruit in your perfect timing. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.