

GOODNESS.

NINE SECRETS FOR HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
WEEK 7

GALATIANS

5:22-23 (NLT)

'But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

ANCIENT PHILOSOPHIES CONCERNING GOODNESS

HAPPINESS: Good is the experience of pleasure and the eradication of pain.

EDUCATION: Good is the acquisition of knowledge and the eradication of ignorance.

DEMOCRACY: Good is the greatest benefit for the greatest number.

MATERIALISM: Good is having goods!

ANCIENT PHILOSOPHIES CONCERNING GOODNESS

Each of these philosophies shares a common error;
the idea that man on his own can choose

What is good for him!

The Bible teaches that people are not born good,
but with a Sinful Nature

PSALMS

51:5

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and
in sin did my mother conceive me.

ANCIENT PHILOSOPHIES CONCERNING GOODNESS

Each of these philosophies shares a common error;
the idea that man on his own can choose

What is good for him!

The Bible teaches that people are not born good,
but with a Sinful Nature

The Bible teaches that each person ultimately
Chooses their behavior and bears the consequences!

ROMANS

6:16 (NLT)

Don't you realize that whatever you choose to obey becomes your master? You can choose sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God and receive his approval.

**THE BIBLE TEACHES US THAT WE HAVE
NO POWER IN OURSELVES TO CHOOSE
THE RIGHT BEHAVIOR, EVEN IF WE
WANT TO!**

ROMANS

7:18-19 (NLT)

I know I am rotten through and through so far as my old sinful nature is concerned. No matter which way I turn, I can't make myself do right. I want to, but I can't. ¹⁹ When I want to do good, I don't. And when I try not to do wrong, I do it anyway.

MARK

10:17-18

¹⁷And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? ¹⁸And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

**THE BIBLE TEACHES US THAT WE
HAVE NO POWER IN OURSELVES TO
CHOOSE THE RIGHT BEHAVIOR, EVEN
IF WE WANT TO!**

**WE DON'T "GET GOOD TO GET GOD,"
WE GET GOD TO GET GOOD!**

The Greek word for "goodness" is the word "agathosune."
It is a rare word that combines BEING good and DOING good. It means goodness that originates in our heart but manifests itself in our actions. It literally means, "to be godlike."

Our most accurate modern word for "goodness" would be the word "wholeness," or "INTEGRITY."

INTEGRITY is a decision to integrate my heart's values into my **DAILY ACTIONS**

PROVERBS

28:6

Better is the poor who walks in his integrity than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

1 CHRONICLES

29:17A

I know, my God, that you examine our hearts and rejoice when you find integrity there.

MATTHEW 6:1 (NLT)

Take care! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired, because then you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven.

1 SAMUEL

16:7B (NLT)

People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at a person's thoughts and intentions.

ROMANS

12:9 (CEV)

Be sincere in your love for others.
Hate everything that is evil and hold
tight to everything that is good.

ROMANS

12:21 (NKJV)

Do not be overcome by evil, but
overcome evil with good.

The only way you can beat the devil is to be the same
in PRIVATE as you are in public.