

# FURTHER STUDY: GOODNESS

Memory verse:

**Romans 12:9** *“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good”*

The kind of goodness Paul is referring to as part of the Fruit of the Spirit is a goodness of heart. It means we are to genuinely be good and do good. That will only come from the life of Christ within us. If we continue to abide in him, his goodness will shine through us!

Doing the Right Thing:

Being good in heart generally means we do the right thing simply because it's the right thing to do. Read about these Old and New Testament characters who choose to do the right thing in the sight of God. Consider what it may have cost them and what the impact of their choice was. What was the result of their faithfulness to God and his Word? What can you learn from their situation and example?

Daniel → **Daniel 6**

Vineyard Owner → **Matthew 20:1-16**

Jesus → **Matthew 4:1-11; Matthew 26:36-56**

What You See is What You Get:

What we do shows who we are and who we want to be. Our goodness comes from the life of Christ within us. Goodness comes from our hearts. We can't 'do good' unless we are 'good in heart.' Read **Luke 6:43-45**. Consider what it looks like and means to have a good heart and how that impacts our daily living.

Created to do Good Works:

Read **Ephesians 2:8-10**. Consider how we are saved and what we are saved for. Read **Matthew 5:16**. Consider the purpose of our good works. How can we point others to Christ through our goodness and doing what is right?

Challenge & Prayer:

Read **Psalms 15**. Reflect on the traits listed. Consider how you can grow into this kind of person that is a reflection of God's goodness. Pray that the Lord would continue to reveal the nature of your heart and create in you a clean heart - one that is shaped after Jesus Christ.