

Part 2: God is Good

Grant Fishbook, Teaching Pastor March 15 & 16, 2014

What comes into our mind when we think about God is the greatest thing about us. – *A.W. Tozer*

God is good.

When people stated that God was not good, it was followed by one of three stories:

- 1) A story from childhood where God scared them
- 2) A story from church where a Christian disappointed them
- 3) A story of disappointment where God did not do as he was <u>told</u> or <u>expected</u> to do

Common Spiritual Pitfalls

- We all have an inaccurate and subjective view of good
- We are prone to be <u>nearsighted</u> in terms of God's goodness
- We fail to recognize that whether or not you believe that God is good, you are experiencing God's goodness <u>right now</u>
- We do not believe that God's goodness can be expressed in a "no"

A Startling Truth

God's greatest act of goodness came out of the heartbreaking evil of <u>the Cross</u>

God Speaks for Himself

He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. - Matthew 5:45b

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." - John 16:33

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them. - Psalm 145:15-19

Next Steps

Join the Conversation: Text your "God is _____" answer or your question about this topic to 781-CTK-TEXT (781-285-8398) or email godis@ ctkbellingham.com or use #ctkgodis on Twitter or Facebook.

Baptism: If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal savior, declare your choice to follow him through water baptism during any weekend service in Bellingham on May 10 and 11. Please attend one of the required baptism classes, Saturday. May 3 at 7:15-8:15 PM or Sunday. May 4 at 12:45-1:45 PM. Registration begins April 5, watch your program or Spring CTK Life for details.

Alpha: Our next session of the powerful, life-changing Alpha Course begins Monday, April 28. Alpha answers the most common questions people ask about Jesus, the Bible and Christian faith. It's a great place to establish accurate beliefs about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, prayer, and the Bible. Registration begins April 5, watch your program or Spring CTK Life for details.

Small Group Questions

- 1) Share an experience where you saw someone's goodness on display.
- 2) Share a time when you were questioning the goodness of God. Are you still questioning, or has God shown you some purpose in the pain?
- Share a time when you experienced the goodness of God.
- 4) Read Genesis 6:5 to Genesis 7:5. Where is the goodness of God in the flood? Where is the goodness of God in judgment? Where is the goodness of God in the preservation of Noah's family?
- 5) Which of the common spiritual pitfalls struck you? Why? Did God speak for himself into any of the pitfalls that you may have fallen into?
- 6) In your prayer time, take some time to speak out where you have seen or experienced the goodness of God. What do you need prayer for today?

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