

The Fruit of the Spirit is Goodness

February 25, 2018

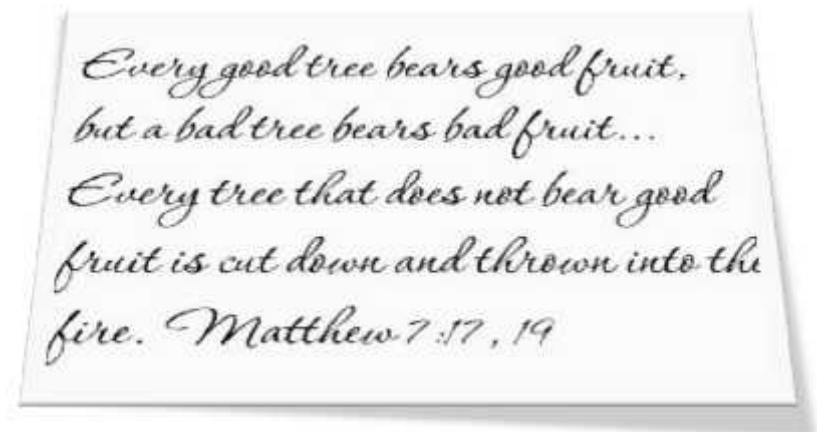
Scripture:

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (Gal. 5:22-23 ESV)

⁸He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8 (ESV)

From the Introduction:

Goodness finds its presence in various forms. Goodness is defined as, “the quality of moral excellence; especially as a quality that is not stagnant, but actively working itself out.”



Share:

- 1) In the message, Pastor Mark said goodness can be manifest in justice, kindness, and humility. Which of these would be most difficult for you to do? Which would be easiest? Why?

Serve:

- 1) What areas in your life does the Holy Spirit need to work on in order for you to serve others in biblical goodness? What steps will you take to grant him access to do that work?

Prayer:

Open your hearts to the Holy Spirit's leading and ask God to grant you a heart that seeks to serve Him in goodness in all its forms (justice, kindness, and humility). Ask Him to let His heart be yours.

- 1) Do _____ (Matt 21:12-13)
 - a) Jesus shows goodness in _____
the Father's house.
 - b) Goodness stirs in us _____ to
address both right and wrong.
- 2) Love _____ (Matt 21:14)
 - a) Jesus shows kindness in _____
the Father's people.
 - b) Goodness stirs in us _____ for
all who are in need.
- 3) Walk _____ (Matt 21:15-17)
 - a) Jesus shows humility in _____
the Father's presence.
 - b) Goodness stirs in us _____ that
seeks the Lord's will above our own.

Remember:

Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.²⁰ Thus you will recognize them by their fruits. (Matt. 7:19-20 ESV)

Reflect:

Many people today are making the mistake of measuring their spiritual stature by the things in which they do or do not indulge. While it is true that the things we do or do not do are indications of our spiritual condition, these things are the effect and not the cause.¹

Seek:

- 1) Read Matthew 3:7-10. In the passage Jesus tells the religious elites of the need to "bear fruit in keeping with repentance." (v. 8) The Greek word, *metanoia*, can be translated "reversal of decision." How significant is the connected between repentance of goodness as represented here by Christ? Why do you think so?

¹ Evangelist V. H. Ray, "Unconscious Goodness," in *The Pentecostal Evangel*, December 2, 1962.