***SERMON NOTES ***

Sunday, September 17, 2017

"GOODNESS"

(Galatians 5:22-23, 6:9-10)

"Goodness" is a fruit of the Spirit. What does "good" look like? There are plenty of inferior definitions. Today we'll find our definition in God's word and find application for living a life of Christlike goodness.

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

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5. Goodness won't	

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

(1) I want to be good

"He 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).

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you" (1 Peter 5:6, ESV).

(2) I can't be good

"You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48, ESV).

"All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one... For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out" (Romans 3:12; 7:18, ESV).

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9, ESV).

"For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing" (Romans 7:18-19, ESV).

(3) Jesus is good for me and good in me.

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him" (Psalm 34:8, ESV).

"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever" (Psalm 106:1, ESV).

"He (Barnabas) was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith" (Acts 11:24, ESV).

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:9-10, ESV).

"As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good" (2 Thessalonians 3:13, ESV).

1. Goodness is <u>hard work</u>.

2. Goodness will yield a harvest (eventually).

3. Goodness is for everyone.

"The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works" (Psalm 145:9, ESV).

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who

love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?" (Matthew 5:46-47, ESV).

4. Goodness is especially intended for other believers.

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35, ESV).

"And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful" (Titus 3:14, ESV).

"Therefore we are comforted. And besides our own comfort, we rejoiced still more at the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all" (2 Corinthians 7:14, ESV).

5. Goodness won't get you into heaven.