

Hope City

Discussion Guide

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The Goodness of God

Goodness of God: Week 2

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Main Idea

God's goodness is more than something we experience during life's best moments. His goodness faithfully protects us, fills us with peace, pursues us with mercy, and sustains us through every season. Because His character never changes, we can confidently trust Him no matter what we face.

Anchor Verse: *"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever"* (Psalms 23:6, NKJV).

Read: Psalm 91:1–2; Psalm 139:7–10; Psalm 23:6; John 10:11

FOUR EXPRESSIONS OF GOD'S GOODNESS

1. GOD'S GOODNESS IS OUR PROTECTION

God's protection is found first in His presence. While He does not promise a life free from hardship, He promises to be with us through every storm. As we dwell in His presence, He guards our hearts, strengthens our faith, and reminds us that His presence is our greatest place of safety.

Scripture: Psalm 91:1–2; Psalm 16:11

Discussion:

- What does it mean to you that God's presence is your protection?
- When have you experienced God's peace even though your circumstances did not change?

- What does it look like to “dwell” in God’s presence instead of only seeking Him during difficult times?

2. GOD’S GOODNESS BRINGS US PEACE

Biblical peace is not the absence of problems but the presence of God. When anxious thoughts begin to take over, we can choose to capture those thoughts and replace them with God’s truth. As we trust His promises rather than our fears, God’s peace guards our hearts and minds in every circumstance.

Scripture: Psalm 139:7–10; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Mark 4:35–39; Philippians 4:7

Discussion:

- What situations most often challenge your peace?
- Why is taking every thought captive an important part of trusting God?
- How does knowing Jesus is “in the boat” change your perspective during life’s storms?

3. GOD’S GOODNESS PURSUES US

Before we ever pursued God, He was already pursuing us. His goodness and mercy continually chase after us—not because we have earned His love, but because of His faithful character. God’s pursuit invites us to repentance, restoration, and deeper relationship with Him, reminding us that we are deeply loved and highly valued.

Scripture: Psalm 23:6; Luke 15; Genesis 3 (*Insert Scripture Text*)

Discussion:

- How have you seen God’s pursuit of your life before you recognized Him at work?
- Why is it encouraging to know God’s love is based on His character instead of your performance?
- How should God’s pursuing love influence the way we respond to Him each day?

4. GOD’S GOODNESS SUSTAINS US

Life’s seasons continually change, but God’s goodness never does. The Good Shepherd who saved us is the same Shepherd who faithfully sustains us each day. As we remain connected to Christ, He provides the strength, grace, and endurance we need to continue following Him until we are with Him forever.

Scripture: Psalm 23:6; John 10:11; John 15 (*Insert Scripture Text*)

Discussion:

- Looking back, where have you seen God’s faithfulness sustain you?
- Why do we sometimes judge God’s goodness by our circumstances instead of His character?
- What does abiding in Christ practically look like in your daily life?

“The scenery may change, but the Shepherd never will.”

SUMMARY

The goodness of God is not limited to blessings or favorable circumstances. It is revealed through His faithful presence that protects us, His peace that steadies us, His mercy that pursues us, and His grace that sustains us. Because God’s character never changes, we can trust His goodness in every season of life.

CALL TO ACTION

Spend Time in God’s Presence: Set aside intentional time each day this week to pray, read Scripture, and rest in God’s presence.

Replace Fear with Truth: Identify one anxious or fearful thought and intentionally replace it with a promise from God’s Word.

Trust His Goodness Daily: Whether you’re walking through a mountaintop or a valley, thank God each day for His protection, peace, pursuit, and sustaining grace.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

“Evidence of God’s Goodness” Icebreaker

Have each person share one way they have experienced God’s goodness during the past week. It can be something significant or something simple they may have overlooked.

Then ask:

How does remembering God’s faithfulness in the past help us trust Him with what we’re facing today?

This activity sets the tone for the discussion by helping participants recognize that God’s goodness is present in every season, even when circumstances are difficult.