



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: GOODNESS

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, **goodness**, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22,23

▶ FAITH FOCUS

Goodness is acting like Jesus. It is both refusing to do evil and choosing to do things that help others—whether or not others deserve the good things we do.

Can you think of someone who's a good person? Are they always nice to others? Do they always follow the rules? These are just a few of the ways others can see goodness in our life.

Where does goodness start?

Our Truth Verse, 3 John 11, tells us, "Anyone who does what is good is from God." True goodness comes from having Jesus in our life and choosing to live for Him.

What is goodness?

Goodness describes who we really are on the inside, even if no one is watching. The Bible tells us that a "good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him" (*See Matthew 12:35.*) Goodness isn't something we can have without thinking about it. Goodness comes when we're careful to make choices that show we live for God.

Goodness means we are dependable and honest. People can count on us to be truthful. We are quick to see and meet needs and to help others.

How can others see goodness in us?

By choosing goodness, we can influence others. In our Bible Case File, Jesus' goodness influenced Zacchaeus to change. Goodness shows through our actions. Zacchaeus's goodness showed through his generosity and willingness to pay back what he had taken from others. Our Truth Verse reminds us that doing good will show others that we are living for God.

CASE SUMMARY

FAITH FACT



Goodness: I will do what is right.

TRUTH VERSE



3 John 11
Anyone who does what is good is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God.

BIBLE CASE FILE



Zacchaeus Meets Jesus
Luke 19:1-10

INVESTIGATORS:

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