

Life Goals: **Goodness**

INTRODUCTION

This series is based on Galatians 5:22-23, which says: *'But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control'.* This session focuses on *Kindness*.

SHARE

What does the word 'good' mean to you?
Who is the 'most good' person you know?

READ

Galatians 5:22-23

The original Greek word that Paul used, and is translated as 'goodness' was *agathosune*, meaning 'moral uprightness in heart and life'. It is the idea that goodness is a state - what is in our hearts - and an act - what we do in our lives.

DISCUSS

What things or ideas do you most naturally tend to view as *good* and why? Think about things like your ethical views, political views, if that is helpful.

On Sunday, Matt shared three ideas in which the Holy Spirit will create goodness - *agathosune* - in us.

Vision - the way God views goodness

Vessel - the state of goodness in our lives

Voyage - the act of goodness in our lives.

How does our culture generally view what 'goodness' is? How does God's perspective differ? Where are there clashes and where are there overlaps?

How can we keep God's definition of goodness front-and-centre in our minds, hearts and behaviours?

Would you ever challenge another Christian if you felt that they were walking away from living in the goodness of God's ways? Why or why not? How can we best inspire others to goodness without making it about ourselves?

Why is it vital, throughout our victories and failures, to hold on to the truth that Jesus has already embodied goodness for us?

PRAY

TRY OUT

Pray for God's spirit to work through you in showing goodness - try to do this as many times you can throughout the week, not just right now.

Pray into where you may help encourage goodness in others and look for opportunities. Let people know they are doing things in God's ways!

Where are you tempted to stray away from God's goodness this week? *Why* is it tempting? Could you feed back next week?