

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Fruit of the Holy Spirit Series

These questions are for the **August 3, 2025**, message, “**Goodness.**” Please read the sermon passage (Mark 10:17-22) together to set the context for our study.

Passage Outline

1. We Cannot Lower God’s Standard of Goodness (17)

¹⁷ And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

2. We Cannot Do Any Good Work to Inherit Eternal Life (17)

¹⁷ And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

Mark 10:13-15

¹³ And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

3. We Cannot Settle for Shallow Goodness (19-22)

¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰ And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.” ²¹ And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” ²² Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

4. God Alone is Good (17-18)

¹⁷ And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.”

5. People Are Not Good (17-18)

¹⁷ And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.”

6. God Works Goodness in us through the Gospel

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Titus 3:4-8

⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Are there misunderstandings about goodness in Mark 10-17:22 that you relate to? Are there misunderstandings that you feel are missing?
2. Why is it important to know that people apart from Christ are naturally “not good?” How do we make sense of apparent “good works” that non-Christians do?
3. How is the gospel related to good works?
4. Look through Paul’s letter to Titus and note the uses of “good.” Did you find anything that you thought was interesting?
5. What is goodness? What does it look like for a person to live in goodness? How about a parent? A spouse? A child? A grandparent? Neighbor? Etc.
6. What is a way that you would like the Holy Spirit to cultivate goodness in you?