



Good

MAIN IDEA

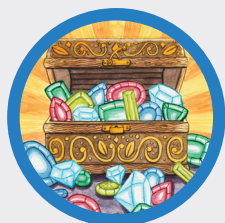
- **God is good in all He is and does.**

MEMORY VERSE

The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.—Psalm 145:9

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Psalm 118:1
- 2) Psalm 119:68a
- 3) Psalm 145:9
- 4) Romans 8:28, 35, 37



LESSON SUMMARY

"Good" is a simple word that children hear often. They may be told to "be good," for example. Or they may express their delight with a new food they have eaten by saying, "That cookie was really good." In either case, "good" is being used to denote approval of something—moral qualities, or more tangible physical qualities. But what is the biblical definition of good, and what does it mean that God is good? Dr. Wayne Grudem can help us:

The goodness of God means that God is the final standard of good, and that all that God is and does is worthy of approval.

...In one sense, we can say that anything that is truly good should be worthy of approval by us. But in a more ultimate sense, we are not free to decide by ourselves what is worthy of approval and what is not. Ultimately, therefore, God's being and actions are perfectly worthy of his own approval. He is therefore the final standard of good.¹

Therefore, all of life, including all of our personal experiences, must be examined in the context of true goodness: God Himself. In this lesson, we used the story of God's providence in the life of the Corrie ten Boom family as they experienced war, prison, sickness, and hunger to illustrate the goodness of God, even in the most difficult circumstances.

PRAYER POINTS

As you review this lesson with your child, pray...

- *that God would be at work in this lesson to help your child see God's goodness in new and amazing ways.*
- *that your child would be able to identify specific ways in which he or she has experienced God's goodness, and give Him thanks.*



AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

- Review Psalm 145:9. According to this verse, is God good to only some people? Can you give an example of how God has been good, even to someone who is really bad? Have you ever heard someone complain that God has not been good or fair to them? Have you ever complained? Is that a right attitude to have toward God? Why

1. Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*. (Nashville, Tenn.: Zondervan 1994), 197.

not? What should our response be toward the goodness of God?

- Have a timed contest (2-3 minutes) to write down specific ways in which God has been good to your family this week. **Suppose we had all day to think of ways in which God has been good to us, how many ways could we think of? What would be a good way to respond to God for His goodness?**

Read Psalm 118:1 and have a time of prayer to thank God for His specific goodness. Encourage your child to be on the lookout this week for specific ways in which God

demonstrates His goodness toward him or her and your family.

- Explain that even though God is good to all people, He is especially good to His own children. **If you are a child of God, in what special ways has God been good to you?** [e.g., forgiveness of sin, answered prayers, given you strength in hard times, etc.]

Has something bad ever happened to you—something that made it hard for you to say, “God is good”? Are there any Bible verses that can help us during those hard times? Read and talk about Romans 8:28.

ACTION STEP

This week at daily prayer time, think of 10 ways God has been good to you each day. When you pray, thank God for each of these. Share your list with another member of your family.

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Make your way to the center of the maze to find the correct words to complete the verse.

The _____

is _____

to all, and his

is over all

that he has

_____.

—*Psalm 145:9*

