

THE BROADLANDS BROADCAST

The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.

Psalm 145:9

God is good, isn't He? In my prayers I am many times redundant in opening by saying: "Lord, thank you for your goodness, mercy and love toward us." I truly mean that when I pray, because if it weren't for His goodness I would be doomed!

The relationship we have with God and with others, this earth He has put us on, His salvation, etc... All of that and more is because of His goodness.

In this newsletter, there are no "heavy" subjects. It is solely focused on God's goodness.

I love y'all!

Tim Bergen

Praising God's Goodness

by Lawrence Darmani

***Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
His love endures forever.***

Psalm 136:1

Someone in our Bible-study group suggested, "Let's write our own psalms!" Initially, some protested that they didn't have the flair for writing, but after some encouragement everyone wrote a moving poetic song narrating how God had been working in their lives. Out of trials, protection, provision, and even pain and tears came enduring messages that gave our psalms fascinating themes. Like Psalm 136, each psalm revealed the truth that God's love endures forever.

We all have a story to tell about God's love—whether we write or sing or tell it. For some, our experiences may be dramatic or intense—like the writer of Psalm 136 who recounted how God delivered His people from captivity and conquered His enemies (vv. 10–15). Others may simply describe God's marvelous creation: "who by his understanding made the heavens . . . spread out the earth upon the waters . . . made the great lights— . . . the sun to govern the day . . . the moon and stars to govern the night" (vv. 5–9).

Remembering who God is and what He has done brings out praise and thanksgiving that glorifies Him. We can then

"[speak] to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:19) about the goodness of the Lord whose love endures forever! Turn your experience of God's love into a praise song of your own and enjoy an overflow of His never-ending goodness.

<https://bit.ly/3bKpNHp>

One of God's faithful missionaries, Allen Gardiner, experienced many physical difficulties and hardships throughout his service to the Savior. Despite his troubles, he said, "While God gives me strength, failure will not daunt me." In 1851, at the age of 57, he died of disease and starvation while serving on Picton Island at the southern tip of South America. When his body was found, his diary lay nearby. It bore the record of hunger, thirst, wounds, and loneliness. The last entry in his little book showed the struggle of his shaking hand as he tried to write legibly. It read, "I am overwhelmed with a sense of the goodness of God."

Allen Gardiner

What does it mean that God is good?

Jesus declared, "No one is good—except God alone" (Luke 18:19). First John 1:5 tells us that "God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all." To say that God is good means that God always acts in accordance to what is right, true, and good. Goodness is part of God's nature, and He cannot contradict His nature. Holiness and righteousness are part of God's nature; He cannot do anything that is unholy or unrighteous. God is the standard of all that is good.

The fact that God is good means that He has no evil in Him, His intentions and motivations are always good, He always does what is right, and the outcome of His plan is always good (see Genesis 50:20). There is nothing unpleasant, evil, or dark in Him. The Bible teaches that God's goodness extends from His nature to everything that

He does (Psalm 119:68). "The LORD is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations" (Psalm 100:5).

Everything that God made was originally good: "God saw all that He had made, and it was very good" (Genesis 1:31; cf. 1 Timothy 4:4). God's goodness is showcased in the Law He gave to Israel; the Law is holy, righteous, and good (Romans 7:12). "Every good and perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17). God can create only what is good, because He is fully good.

God did not create evil (Habakkuk 1:13; 1 John 1:5). Rather, evil is the absence of goodness; it is whatever God is not. Because of His goodness, God abhors sin and will judge it some day (Romans 2:5). It is never the will of our good God for us to sin: "God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone" (James 1:13).

God's goodness should lead to thankfulness on our part: "Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever" (Psalm 107:1; cf. 1 Chronicles 16:34; Psalm 118:1; 136). However, people do not naturally want to follow or thank God. Instead, "people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19). In the Old Testament, the Israelites repeatedly rejected God's good Law, forgot His goodness toward them, and were unfaithful to Him: "They forgot what he had done, the wonders he had shown them" (Psalm 78:11).

Ultimately, God's goodness is seen in His plan to redeem us from sin. The gospel is "good news." In His goodness, God sent His Son to become the perfect and blameless sacrifice so we could be forgiven of our sins. God does not want "anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9), and it is "the goodness of God [that] leadeth thee to repentance" (Romans 2:4, KJV).

There is only One who is fully and truly good—God. This good God invites us to seek Him and to "taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him" (Psalm 34:8).

<https://bit.ly/3uFklZJ>

Often I have heard people say, "How good God is! We prayed that it would not rain for our church picnic, and look at the lovely weather!" Yes, God is good when He sends good weather. But God was also good when He allowed my sister, Betsie, to starve to death before my eyes in a German concentration camp. I remember one occasion when I was

very discouraged there. Everything around us was dark, and there was darkness in my heart. I remember telling Betsie that I thought God had forgotten us. "No, Corrie," said Betsie, "He has not forgotten us. Remember His Word: 'For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him.'" Corrie concludes, "There is an ocean of God's love available--there is plenty for everyone. May God grant you never to doubt that victorious love--whatever the circumstances."

Corrie Ten Boom

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Leland Moses 1st
John Herger 3rd
Margaret Hines 5th
Darval Burks 6th
Andy Buford 7th
Gerald Bergen 7th
Alan Childress 8th
Derrall and Sue Cronce 15th
Steve Simmons 15th
Alayna Johnson 17th
Johnnie and Charlotte Craig 18th
Walter and Anna Fontenot 19th
Alan and Adriana Childress 20th
Geoff Lee 21st
Andy and Aimee Buford 21st
Evelyn Smithkors 27th
Vi Kochell 28th
Stephen Friend 30th

Nursery Worker Schedule

02/28 & 03/07 Judy Bergen & Teresa Smith
03/14 & 03/21 Caryn Simmons & Kayley Dykes
03/28 & 04/04 Cathy & Avery Gregory

Elder/Deacon Schedule

03/07 Derrall Cronce
03/14 Justin Fontenot
03/21 Herbert Ragle
03/28 Tim Reeves

Activities

LEADERSHIP MEETING—Friday, 03/12 @ 6:00 pm
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS—Sunday, 03/14
PALM SUNDAY—Sunday, 03/28