

D. L. Nicely Ministries
Teaching Newsletter
Secret place
Volume 5...Issue 8
August 09

Part- 8...The Greatest need in the church today
"The Holy Spirit"

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV) ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness..

Ephesians 5:8 - 10

(NKJV) ⁸For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness...

Goodness is an outward fruit of the Spirit. Generous is another word that could be used to replace the word goodness. In the genuine believers life generosity is evident. In cultivating this fruit the believer must realize that everything they own is God's first. They have learned that they can't out give God. When they feel prompted to give whether it be their time, money or some other asset true Christians respond from the heart.

Hebrews 13:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Biblical examples of goodness radiate through out the pages of holy writ as well as in modern day Samaritans. My best example of goodness in the twentieth century can be found in the story Mother Teresa. She was a highly motivated young nun when she first visited India. Suddenly all her personal aspirations were wiped away as she gazed upon the extreme suffering taking place in leper torn India. People were just left to die in the streets and then loaded into a meat wagon and their fresh dead corpses were just thrown into the river to be eaten by fish and predators. It was a horrific sight for the up and coming nun. One gaze at all the leprosy, starvation and the utter destitute living of the orphan children was all God needed to tug and the young nuns heart. She never left, but instead dedicated her life to feeding and caring for dying lepers. She became Jesus to abandoned children. She let the goodness of God shine in her life and only heaven knows the rewards that are in store for someone like her that totally dedicates their life to the work of God on this earth.

In understanding goodness we must understand that goodness from God has its own personality.

Psalms 25:8 (NKJV) ⁸ Good and upright *is* the LORD; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

The Lord is good and because of His goodness we all have the privilege of salvation and repentance.

Romans 2:4 (NKJV) ⁴Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

The Lord's goodness is even revealed to us with our natural senses.

Psalms 34:8 (NKJV) Oh, taste and see that the LORD *is* good; Blessed *is* the man *who* trusts in Him!

Every time you eat a delicious apple or banana you taste of the Lord's goodness. Now having the goodness of God placed in our spirit it is our responsibility to display His goodness on a practical level.

Luke 6:27 (NKJV) "But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

We are not only commanded to good to our enemies but to go as far as to feed them;

Romans 12:20 (NKJV) Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."

One thing that many people do not understand is just who are our enemies? Enemies are not necessarily someone who hates or despises you. But in a very real practical sense anyone who does not have Christ in their life is our enemy. Unsaved family members, bosses, acquaintances, or whoever are our real enemies. The bible is very clear that there is no middle road. Jesus said he who is not with me is against me. You're either on Jesus's side or the devils it's that simple. Every time we have a food distribution and give groceries to an unsaved person we are feeding our enemies. Friend anyone who has not the Spirit of God living in them has the spirit of the devil in there instead.

Lastly today I want to talk about a spiritual goodness that all Christians possess.

Psalms 23:6 (NKJV) Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in
the house of the LORD Forever.

God promises that our lives are to be filled with His goodness no matter where we go. And he also promises to pay us back for every deed we do whether they be good or bad.

Galatians 6:6 - 7 (NKJV) ⁶Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. ⁷Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

So let's be sure to make our deeds fruitful and rewarding.