

Connection Equipping Academy
Biblical Foundation // God's Character, Nature, and Attributes
Topic // God's Goodness and Faithfulness

OVERVIEW

Mission Statement

Our goal is to help equip the saints to do God's work in the World.

Last week, we discussed one of the aspects of growing in knowing God in mending and repairing our misconceptions of God. We need to mend and repair the misconceptions, or God-wounds, that we have developed from our experiences and have allowed them to shape our perception of God, ourselves, the world, and even how we interpret Scripture. Instead, we renew our minds by placing our misconceptions under the truth of Scripture, resulting in growth to closer relationship with Him. This is a process over our lifetimes, so don't be discouraged! We get the presence and unconditional, faithful love of Jesus Himself each day with no limits. This is an invitation to the greatest love, joy, and peace we'll ever know!

As we are being equipped, we are going to spend several weeks talking through *four growth areas*. We'll be looking biblical foundations for each of these:

Four Growth Areas

- Knowing God
- Identity in Christ
- The Body of Christ
- God's Kingdom

In order to equip, we will practice each week looking at the Biblical passages on each topic. We will consider some of the common misconceptions and then ask four *application questions*:

- What does this tell us about God?
- What does this tell us about ourselves?
- What has God done?
- Who have we become?

INTRO

In order to know more of God, we need to explore *biblical foundations* to show us Who He is. Over time, we will study six of His specific attributes that Scripture delves into in its pages. (These are not the sum total of His attributes but six that are important to build a foundation of growing in Him):

- **Faithful & Good**
- **Righteous and Just**
- **Personal**
- **Loving**
- **Exists in Community (The Trinity)**
- **Sovereign**

In episode two, we will begin discussing God's faithfulness and goodness as essential attributes of His character. *It is much too easy to let our limited understanding color our perception of God based on our experiences.* But God tells us in His Word who He is– He is faithful and good! Therefore, we know we must let the truth of Who He is reframe our perception. Our lives will continue to be transformed by His Spirit as we pull down these strongholds. It is essential to let the Spirit renew our minds in our believing, and truly see His faithfulness and goodness as His individual children.

GOD'S GOODNESS AND FAITHFULNESS

Exodus 34:6-7 — *The Lord (Yahweh) — the Lord is a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in faithful love and truth, maintaining faithful love to a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, rebellion, and sin. But he will not leave the guilty unpunished, bringing the fathers' iniquity on the children and grandchildren to the third and fourth generation.*

- Psalm 111:4
God's wonderful works were made _____. The Lord is gracious and full of _____.
- Psalm 116:5
The Lord is _____, righteous, and merciful.

“God's compassion highlights His goodness.”

- Titus 3:5
His kindness and love bear fruit, which is our salvation and our continual renewal through the Holy Spirit that He poured out on us abundantly.

Each of these reveal God's goodness and faithfulness:

- Genesis 1:31 - Everything God made was _____.
“God sees that the light is good, not as an act of recognition, but as a reflection of His own goodness, originating in Him and issuing from him. God is the source of all good and is Himself wholly good.” Jen Wilkin, In His Image p. 46

- 2 Peter 1:3 - Our salvation flows out of his goodness; His _____ and _____ has called us to Himself.
- Deuteronomy 7:9 - God is _____ to his promises.

It is not in God's nature to lie. He cannot because of Who He is, incorruptible, holy, righteous, uncreated. Therefore, we can rest in trustworthiness and we are called to interpret everything by the truth that He is faithful.

- 2 Corinthians 1:20 - God's promises are most clearly seen in _____!

Common misconceptions that marr our understanding of His goodness and faithfulness:

- “If God really cared, he would have ...”
- “God may be there, but I don’t know if he really cares about what’s going on with me.”
- “Why would God let that happen? What is God doing? I don’t get it.”

God is not afraid of or unwilling to let us bring our weak and broken misunderstandings and emotions to Him. The misconception is in thinking that His goodness and faithfulness are dependent upon our ability to interpret our experiences. We are living in a broken world, groaning under the weight of sin’s consequences and we are finite human beings who don’t have the whole perspective or capacity to know. But the good news is that God is good and He doesn’t expect you to know; He invites you to believe and trust Him.

We don’t have to understand the ‘why’ in order to participate in the ‘what.’...We cannot wrap our limited minds around an unlimited God.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

With the following four application questions, we don’t simply mean for you to answer what you learn intellectually. Because we are in relationship with God, we meditate on the truth of Who He is as the Holy Spirit reveals Him to us in Scripture and in relational experience. What have you learned about God and yourself through the particular view of His goodness and faithfulness? We have included some statements from the video but please make this personal and write down any observations from your life and your relationship with God.

Application Question 1

What do we learn about God through His goodness? His faithfulness?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Application Question 2

What do we learn about ourselves in light of God's faithfulness and goodness?

- _____
- _____
- _____

Application Question 3

What has God done through his faithfulness and goodness?

- _____
- _____
- _____

In Psalm 23, David states, "Surely His goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life." That word "follow" means pursue, as a hunter follows after a scent trail. His goodness and mercy shall pursue you all the days of your life!

Application Question 4

Who have I become through God's goodness and faithfulness?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

"If you would live in victory . . . you must refuse to be dominated by the seen and the felt."

—Amy Carmichael

RECOMMENDATIONS

If you want more resources that stir your heart for Jesus on this topic as well as readings to continue to dig deeper, check out the two lists below!

Songs

- [*In Tenderness* — The Citizens](#)
- [*Way Maker* — Leeland](#)
- [*Faithful Right Now* — Connection Music](#)

Books

- *The Cross of Christ* — John Stott
- *Evangelical Theology* — Michael Bird