

THE ROLE OF GOODNESS IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE KINGDOM: A SURVEY OF THE EARLY CHURCH'S TEACHING ON DOING AND BEING GOOD.

SUBMITTED BY ROGER BERRINGTON – FEB 5, 2008

PREMISE. As I have read the NT epistles over the years I recognize that I have read them through the lenses of the assumption that Paul and the other apostolic writers were desiring to equip and “create” more “apostles.” I recently asked myself “what if Paul and the other apostles recognized that local believers have a different and important role in the advancement of the Kingdom, and that this role is essentially to pave the way for a proclamation of the message through the difference (and goodness) of their lives and not just through their words?”

This led me to ask the question of lifestyle versus (or in addition to) proclamation as a viable and important piece of the advancement of the early church's mission. I surveyed the NT for evidence that would support the thesis that local believers were encouraged to live good lives in the midst their non-believing social networks and that proclamation was more of a specialized function of the itinerant leaders of the church. Here are some of my findings re: the former. In fact, in some cases, local believers may have been encouraged to stop talking so much (see I Thess 4:11).

An important passage in the Gospels was the sequence of Kingdom metaphors in Matthew 13 related to the good seed, defined by Jesus as the sons of the Kingdom. Could this be a statement of the quality of the lives of the “sons” in addition to the idea of the quality of the message of the sons (reading “good” without the evangelical lens of proclamation or message)?

I recognize this is a simple study that does not take into consideration the nuances of the original language but is rather a simple reading of the word “good” in the NT. In terms of ministry application; do I need to see more value in the efforts to cultivate a good heart and trust that good actions and words will result (Luke 6:45)? This is a bit of a departure from the discipleship methodology that I have pursued and propagated since I came to Christ through the Navigators almost 28 years ago. A discipleship that focused more on knowledge and morality and less on heart and goodness or love. My understanding and practice of discipleship was also not sensitive to “place”, that is the vocation, giftedness and relational reality of the believer. I also had a very limited understanding of evangelism and the notion of the advancement of the Kingdom. I simply accepted the mores of the day – evangelism as a proclamation-based discipleship activity rather than as a whole life representation of the living Christ.

Again, this study is a simple attempt to ferret out some of the teaching on “goodness” in the early church. I have left out numerous uses of the word good that did not directly pertain to a person's lifestyle eg the good news (about 50 verses) and have not, in this study, done any analysis of the data. That is left up to the reader. I did include almost 240 verses that use the word good in the New Testament.

Was goodness a fundamental quality that was encouraged and taught by the early church leaders (including Jesus) and if so what impact does (should) that have on our understanding and practice of discipleship and evangelism?

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith **goodness**; and to **goodness**, knowledge; 2 Peter 1:5

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing **good** and helping the poor. Acts 9:36

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his **good** life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. James 3:13

Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a **good** man." John 7:12

KEY PASSAGES FROM THE EPISTLES.

2 Corinthians 9:8

8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every **good** work.

Galatians 6:9-10

9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do **good** to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Ephesians 2:10

10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do **good** works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 6:7-8

7 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, 8 because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever **good** he does, whether he is slave or free.

Colossians 1:10-12

10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every **good** work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

11 Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, 12 so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22

21 Test everything. Hold on to the **good**. 22 Avoid every kind of evil.

1 Timothy 3:6-9

7 He must also have a **good** reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap. 8 Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain.

1 Timothy 6:18

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do **good**, to be rich in **good** deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every **good** work.

Titus 1:8

8 Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is **good**, who is self- controlled, upright, holy and disciplined.

Titus 1:16

16 They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything **good**.

Titus 2:3-5

Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is **good**. 4 Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

Titus 2:7-8

7 In everything set them an example by doing what is **good**. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness 8 and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Titus 2:11-14

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. 12 It teaches us to say No to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self- controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope— the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is **good**.

Titus 3:1-2

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is **good**, 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men.

Titus 3:8

8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is **good**. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

Titus 3:14

14 Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is **good**, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.

Hebrews 10:24

24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and **good** deeds.

Hebrews 13:16

16 And do not forget to do **good** and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

James 4:17

17 Anyone, then, who knows the **good** he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

1 Peter 2:12

12 Live such **good** lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

1 Peter 3:17

17 It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing **good** than for doing evil.

THE GOSPELS

1. [Matthew 3:10](#)

The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce **good** fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

2. [Matthew 4:23](#)

[*Jesus Heals the Sick*] Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the **good** news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

3. [Matthew 5:13](#)

[*Salt and Light*] "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer **good** for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

4. [Matthew 5:16](#)

In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your **good** deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

5. [Matthew 5:45](#)

that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the **good**, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

6. [Matthew 6:22](#)

"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are **good**, your whole body will be full of light.

7. [Matthew 7:11](#)

If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give **good** gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give **good** gifts to those who ask him!

8. [Matthew 7:17](#)

Likewise every **good** tree bears **good** fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

9. [Matthew 7:18](#)

A **good** tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear **good** fruit.

10. [Matthew 7:19](#)

Every tree that does not bear **good** fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

11. [Matthew 9:35](#)

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the **good** news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.

12. [Matthew 11:5](#)

The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the **good** news is preached to the poor.

13. [Matthew 12:12](#)

How much more valuable is a man than a sheep! Therefore it is lawful to do **good** on the Sabbath."

14. [Matthew 12:33](#)
"Make a tree **good** and its fruit will be **good**, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit.
15. [Matthew 12:34](#)
You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything **good**? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.
16. [Matthew 12:35](#)
The **good** man brings **good** things out of the **good** stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.
17. [Matthew 13:8](#)
Still other seed fell on **good** soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.
18. [Matthew 13:23](#)
But the one who received the seed that fell on **good** soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."
19. [Matthew 13:24](#)
Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed **good** seed in his field.
20. [Matthew 13:27](#)
"The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow **good** seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'
21. [Matthew 13:37](#)
He answered, "The one who sowed the **good** seed is the Son of Man.
22. [Matthew 13:38](#)
The field is the world, and the **good** seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,
23. [Matthew 13:48](#)
When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the **good** fish in baskets, but threw the bad away.
24. [Matthew 19:16](#)
[*The Rich Young Man*] Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what **good** thing must I do to get eternal life?"
25. [Matthew 19:17](#)
"Why do you ask me about what is **good**?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is **good**. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."
26. [Matthew 22:10](#)
So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both **good** and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.
27. [Matthew 24:46](#)
It will be **good** for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns.
28. [Matthew 25:21](#)
"His master replied, 'Well done, **good** and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'
29. [Matthew 25:23](#)
"His master replied, 'Well done, **good** and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

30. [Mark 1:14](#)
After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the **good** news of God.
31. [Mark 1:15](#)
"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the **good** news!"
32. [Mark 3:4](#)
Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do **good** or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent.
33. [Mark 4:8](#)
Still other seed fell on **good** soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times."
34. [Mark 4:20](#)
Others, like seed sown on **good** soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—thirty, sixty or even a hundred times what was sown."
35. [Mark 9:50](#)
"Salt is **good**, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other."
36. [Mark 10:17](#)
As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "**Good** teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
37. [Mark 10:18](#)
"Why do you call me **good**?" Jesus answered. "No one is **good**—except God alone.
38. [Mark 16:15](#)
He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the **good** news to all creation"
39. [Luke 1:19](#)
The angel answered, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this **good** news.
40. [Luke 1:53](#)
He has filled the hungry with **good** things but has sent the rich away empty.
41. [Luke 2:10](#)
But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you **good** news of great joy that will be for all the people.
42. [Luke 3:9](#)
The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce **good** fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."
43. [Luke 3:18](#)
And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the **good** news to them.
44. [Luke 4:18](#)
"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach **good** news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,
45. [Luke 4:43](#)
But he said, "I must preach the **good** news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent."

46. [Luke 6:9](#)
Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do **good** or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?"
47. [Luke 6:27](#)
"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do **good** to those who hate you,
48. [Luke 6:33](#)
And if you do **good** to those who are **good** to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that.
49. [Luke 6:35](#)
But love your enemies, do **good** to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.
50. [Luke 6:43](#)
[*A Tree and Its Fruit*] "No **good** tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear **good** fruit.
51. [Luke 6:45](#)
The **good** man brings **good** things out of the **good** stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.
52. [Luke 7:22](#)
So he replied to the messengers, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the **good** news is preached to the poor.
53. [Luke 8:1](#)
After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the **good** news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him,
54. [Luke 8:8](#)
Still other seed fell on **good** soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown." When he said this, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."
55. [Luke 8:15](#)
But the seed on **good** soil stands for those with a noble and **good** heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.
56. [Luke 11:13](#)
If you then, though you are evil, know how to give **good** gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"
57. [Luke 11:34](#)
Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are **good**, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are bad, your body also is full of darkness.
58. [Luke 12:16](#)
And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a **good** crop.
59. [Luke 14:34](#)
"Salt is **good**, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?"
60. [Luke 16:16](#)
"The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the **good** news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.
61. [Luke 16:25](#)
"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your **good** things, while Lazarus received bad things,

but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.

62. [Luke 18:18](#)

A certain ruler asked him, "**Good** teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

63. [Luke 18:19](#)

"Why do you call me **good**?" Jesus answered. "No one is **good**—except God alone.

64. [Luke 19:17](#)

"Well done, my **good** servant!" his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'

65. [Luke 23:50](#)

[*Jesus' Burial*] Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a **good** and upright man,

66. [John 1:46](#)

"Nazareth! Can anything **good** come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip.

67. [John 5:29](#)

and come out—those who have done **good** will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.

68. [John 7:12](#)

Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a **good** man."

69. [John 10:11](#)

"I am the **good** shepherd. The **good** shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

70. [John 10:14](#)

"I am the **good** shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—

71. [Acts 5:42](#)

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the **good** news that Jesus is the Christ.

72. [Acts 8:12](#)

But when they believed Philip as he preached the **good** news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

)

73. [Acts 8:35](#)

Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the **good** news about Jesus.

74. [Acts 9:36](#)

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing **good** and helping the poor.

75. [Acts 10:36](#)

You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the **good** news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

101. [Acts 10:38](#)

how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing **good** and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

102. [Acts 11:20](#)
Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the **good** news about the Lord Jesus.
103. [Acts 11:24](#)
He was a **good** man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.
104. [Acts 14:7](#)
where they continued to preach the **good** news.
105. [Acts 14:15](#)
"Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you **good** news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them.
106. [Acts 14:21](#)
They preached the **good** news in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch,
107. [Acts 17:18](#)
A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to dispute with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the **good** news about Jesus and the resurrection.
108. [Acts 19:27](#)
There is danger not only that our trade will lose its **good** name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited, and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty."
109. [Romans 2:7](#)
To those who by persistence in doing **good** seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.
110. [Romans 2:10](#)
but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does **good**: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.
111. [Romans 3:8](#)
Why not say—as we are being slanderously reported as saying and as some claim that we say—"Let us do evil that **good** may result"? Their condemnation is deserved.
112. [Romans 3:12](#)
All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does **good**, not even one."
113. [Romans 4:19](#)
Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as **good** as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead.
114. [Romans 5:7](#)
Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a **good** man someone might possibly dare to die.
115. [Romans 7:12](#)
So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and **good**.
116. [Romans 7:13](#)
Did that which is **good**, then, become death to me? By no means! But in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it produced death in me through what was **good**, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful.

117. [Romans 7:16](#)
And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is **good**.
118. [Romans 7:18](#)
I know that nothing **good** lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is **good**, but I cannot carry it out.
119. [Romans 7:19](#)
For what I do is not the **good** I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.
120. [Romans 7:21](#)
So I find this law at work: When I want to do **good**, evil is right there with me.
121. [Romans 8:28](#)
And we know that in all things God works for the **good** of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
122. [Romans 9:11](#)
Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything **good** or bad—in order that God's purpose in election might stand:
123. [Romans 10:15](#)
And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring **good** news!"
124. [Romans 10:16](#)
But not all the Israelites accepted the **good** news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?"
)
125. [Romans 12:2](#)
Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his **good**, pleasing and perfect will.
126. [Romans 12:9](#)
Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is **good**.
127. [Romans 12:21](#)
Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with **good**.
128. [Romans 13:4](#)
For he is God's servant to do you **good**. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.
129. [Romans 14:16](#)
Do not allow what you consider **good** to be spoken of as evil.
130. [Romans 15:2](#)
Each of us should please his neighbor for his **good**, to build him up.
131. [Romans 15:14](#)
[*Paul the Minister to the Gentiles*] I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of **goodness**, complete in knowledge and competent to instruct one another.
132. [Romans 16:19](#)
Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I am full of joy over you; but I want you to be wise about what is **good**, and innocent about what is evil.
133. [1 Corinthians 5:6](#)
Your boasting is not **good**. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough?

134. [1 Corinthians 7:8](#)

Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is **good** for them to stay unmarried, as I am.

)

135. [1 Corinthians 7:26](#)

Because of the present crisis, I think that it is **good** for you to remain as you are.

136. [1 Corinthians 7:35](#)

I am saying this for your own **good**, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

137. [1 Corinthians 10:24](#)

Nobody should seek his own **good**, but the **good** of others.

138. [1 Corinthians 10:33](#)

even as I try to please everybody in every way. For I am not seeking my own **good** but the **good** of many, so that they may be saved.

139. [1 Corinthians 11:17](#)

In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than **good**.

140. [1 Corinthians 12:7](#)

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common **good**.

141. [1 Corinthians 14:6](#)

Now, brothers, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what **good** will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction?

142. [1 Corinthians 15:33](#)

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts **good** character."

143. [2 Corinthians 5:10](#)

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether **good** or bad.

144. [2 Corinthians 9:8](#)

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every **good** work.

145. [Galatians 4:17](#)

Those people are zealous to win you over, but for no **good**. What they want is to alienate you from us, so that you may be zealous for them.

146. [Galatians 4:18](#)

It is fine to be zealous, provided the purpose is **good**, and to be so always and not just when I am with you.

147. [Galatians 5:7](#)

You were running a **good** race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?

148. [Galatians 5:22](#)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, **goodness**, faithfulness.

149. [Galatians 6:6](#)

Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all **good** things with his instructor.

150. [Galatians 6:9](#)

Let us not become weary in doing **good**, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

151. [Galatians 6:10](#)

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do **good** to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

152. [Galatians 6:12](#)

Those who want to make a **good** impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ.

153. [Ephesians 1:9](#)

And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his **good** pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,

154. [Ephesians 2:10](#)

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do **good** works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

155. [Ephesians 5:9](#)

(for the fruit of the light consists in all **goodness**, righteousness and truth)

156. [Ephesians 6:8](#)

because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever **good** he does, whether he is slave or free.

157. [Philippians 1:6](#)

being confident of this, that he who began a **good** work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

158. [Philippians 1:15](#)

It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of **goodwill**.

159. [Philippians 2:13](#)

for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his **good** purpose.

160. [Philippians 4:14](#)

Yet it was **good** of you to share in my troubles.

161. [Colossians 1:10](#)

And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every **good** work, growing in the knowledge of God,

162. [1 Thessalonians 3:6](#)

But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought **good** news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you.

163. [1 Thessalonians 5:21](#)

Test everything. Hold on to the **good**.

164. [2 Thessalonians 1:11](#)

With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every **good** purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith.

165. [2 Thessalonians 2:17](#)

encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every **good** deed and word.

166. [1 Timothy 1:5](#)

The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a **good** conscience and a sincere faith.

167. [1 Timothy 1:8](#)

We know that the law is **good** if one uses it properly.

168. [1 Timothy 1:18](#)

Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them

you may fight the **good** fight,

169. [1 Timothy 1:19](#)

holding on to faith and a **good** conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith.

170. [1 Timothy 2:3](#)

This is **good**, and pleases God our Savior,

171. [1 Timothy 2:10](#)

but with **good** deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

172. [1 Timothy 3:7](#)

He must also have a **good** reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

173. [1 Timothy 4:4](#)

For everything God created is **good**, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,

174. [1 Timothy 4:6](#)

If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a **good** minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the **good** teaching that you have followed.

175. [1 Timothy 5:10](#)

and is well known for her **good** deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the saints, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of **good** deeds.

176. [1 Timothy 5:25](#)

In the same way, **good** deeds are obvious, and even those that are not cannot be hidden.

177. [1 Timothy 6:12](#)

Fight the **good** fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your **good** confession in the presence of many witnesses.

178. [1 Timothy 6:18](#)

Command them to do **good**, to be rich in **good** deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

179. [2 Timothy 1:14](#)

Guard the **good** deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

180. [2 Timothy 2:3](#)

Endure hardship with us like a **good** soldier of Christ Jesus.

181. [2 Timothy 2:21](#)

If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any **good** work.

182. [2 Timothy 3:3](#)

without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the **good**,

183. [2 Timothy 3:17](#)

so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every **good** work.

184. [2 Timothy 4:7](#)

I have fought the **good** fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

185. [Titus 1:8](#)

Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is **good**, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined.

186. [Titus 1:16](#)
They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything **good**.
187. [Titus 2:3](#)
Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is **good**.
188. [Titus 2:7](#)
In everything set them an example by doing what is **good**. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness
201. [Titus 2:14](#)
who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is **good**.
202. [Titus 3:1](#)
Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is **good**,
203. [Titus 3:8](#)
This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is **good**. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.
204. [Titus 3:14](#)
Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is **good**, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.
205. [Philemon 1:6](#)
I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every **good** thing we have in Christ.
206. [Philemon 1:15](#)
Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back for **good**—
207. [Hebrews 5:14](#)
But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish **good** from evil.
208. [Hebrews 6:5](#)
who have tasted the **goodness** of the word of God and the powers of the coming age,
209. [Hebrews 9:11](#)
[*The Blood of Christ*] When Christ came as high priest of the **good** things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation.
210. [Hebrews 10:1](#)
The law is only a shadow of the **good** things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.
211. [Hebrews 10:24](#)
And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and **good** deeds.
212. [Hebrews 13:9](#)
Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is **good** for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by ceremonial foods, which are of no value to those who eat them.

213. [Hebrews 13:16](#)
And do not forget to do **good** and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.
214. [Hebrews 13:21](#)
equip you with everything **good** for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.
215. [James 1:17](#)
Every **good** and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.
216. [James 2:14](#)
What **good** is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him?
217. [James 2:16](#)
If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what **good** is it?
218. [James 3:13](#)
Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his **good** life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.
219. [James 3:17](#)
But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and **good** fruit, impartial and sincere.
220. [James 4:17](#)
Anyone, then, who knows the **good** he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.
221. [1 Peter 2:3](#)
now that you have tasted that the Lord is **good**.
222. [1 Peter 2:12](#)
Live such **good** lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your **good** deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.
223. [1 Peter 2:15](#)
For it is God's will that by doing **good** you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men.
224. [1 Peter 2:18](#)
Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are **good** and considerate, but also to those who are harsh.
225. [1 Peter 2:20](#)
But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing **good** and you endure it, this is commendable before God.
226. [1 Peter 3:10](#)
For, "Whoever would love life and see **good** days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech.
227. [1 Peter 3:11](#)
He must turn from evil and do **good**; he must seek peace and pursue it.
228. [1 Peter 3:13](#)
Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do **good**?

229. [1 Peter 3:16](#)

keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your **good** behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

230. [1 Peter 3:17](#)

It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing **good** than for doing evil.

231. [1 Peter 4:19](#)

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do **good**.

232. [2 Peter 1:3](#)

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and **goodness**.

233. [2 Peter 1:5](#)

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith **goodness**; and to **goodness**, knowledge;

234. [3 John 1:11](#)

Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is **good**. Anyone who does what is **good** is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God.