

# FRUIT of the *Spirit*

Sunday, September 20, 2020 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## PART 6 | **GOODNESS**

Multiple Scriptures

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*

**– Galatians 5:22-23**

Jesus alone **IS GOOD**

**everlasting, perfect righteousness** Psalm 19:9; 119:142; 1Peter 2:22; 1John 3:5; Deut. 32:4

**are people born good?** Psalm 51:5; Romans 5:12, 3:10ff; Psalm 14:3; Eph 2:1-3

—he gives us **HIS GOODNESS**

## Three Realms of Righteousness/Goodness:

### 1. **Self-Righteousness** Luke 18:9-14; Matthew 5:20; Isaiah 64:6-9

*My own righteousness relative to other people...*

### 2. **Imputed Righteousness** Philippians 3:9; Genesis 15:6; Romans 3:21-24; 2Cor. 5:16-21

*The perfect righteousness of God ascribed to my account...*

### 3. **Practical Righteousness** Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 2:8-10; James 1:22

*The righteousness of sanctification as I walk by the Spirit...*

then **INSISTS** we do good.

**good works *never* lead to righteousness**

**righteousness *always* leads to good works**



**What is this?** – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

**Welcome to Life Groups!** We're studying the fruit that the Holy Spirit grows in our lives as we stay close to Jesus.

## Getting Started

**Getting to Know You:** Part of our goal together is getting to know one another. *If you could eliminate one food so no one could eat it ever again, what would you destroy?*

Review your message notes and this week's Scripture. What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it with your group.

## God's Wonderful Goodness

*\* This week's questions are adapted from: J. I. Packer, Meeting God: 12 Studies for Individuals or Groups: With Notes for Leaders, A LifeGuide Bible Study (Westmont, IL: IVP Connect, 2001).*

**Group Discussion.** Respond to this statement: *"The phrase 'thank you' should be eliminated from the language because it is unnecessary. People should do things just because they need to be done and shouldn't require any show of gratitude."*

**Personal Reflection.** Consider a time you especially appreciated being thanked for something. Consider also a time when you went out of your way to do something for someone and you were not thanked. How would you describe the difference in your feelings? How did being thanked or not being thanked affect your relationships with those people?

It's uncertain who the author of **Psalm 107** is, but they take us through the histories of a number of unnamed people, all of them undoubtedly members of ancient Israel. **Read Psalm 107.**

1. What picture of God do you find throughout this psalm?
2. How do you find this encouraging?
3. The psalmist relates four different incidents in **verses 4–9, 10–16, 17–22** and **23–32**. What brief title or headline would you give to each incident?

Title for **Psalm 107:4-9** = \_\_\_\_\_

Title for **Psalm 107:10-16** = \_\_\_\_\_

Title for **Psalm 107:17-22** = \_\_\_\_\_

Title for **Psalm 107:23-32** = \_\_\_\_\_

- a. What elements do all four stories have in common?
- b. How is God's unfailing love demonstrated in each account?
4. Each scene begins by describing a calamity and a cry for help. *When have you hit bottom before crying out to God?*
5. Why do we so often have to hit bottom before we cry out to God?
6. Each scene concludes by describing God's salvation and calling us to give thanks for his unfailing love (**v. 8, 15, 21–22, 31–32**). Why is it good to thank God?

*Continued on next page...*

7. What prayers has God answered recently for which you are thankful?
8. According to **verses 22 and 32**, what are some ways we can give thanks?
9. What do **verses 33–42** reveal about God’s hand in the ups and downs of our lives?
10. **Verse 43** states that if we are wise, we will “*heed these things and consider the great love of the Lord.*” What specific things do you think God would want you to pay attention to in this psalm?

## Pray

Pray prayers of thankfulness for the Lord’s deliverance from trouble. Pray prayers that express both your trust and your need for help, like the people in Psalm 107, for those situations where you are still in the middle of crisis.

### Try it This Week:

Write your own “Psalm 107” detailing the history of a time (or several times) you were in distress and cried out to God and God delivered you.



## SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE

Practice meditating on **Galatians 5:22-23**. Read it 8 or 9 times. First read it quickly, then read it slowly focusing several seconds on each main word. Then begin to memorize these two verses. Make it your goal to be able to know these two verses by heart by the end of September!

### Word Find for Romans 3:21-24 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

21 But now the **righteousness** of God has **been manifested apart** from the law, **although** the Law and the **Prophets bear** witness to it— 22 the **righteousness** of God through **faith** in **Jesus Christ** for all who **believe**. For **there** is no **distinction**: 23 for all have **sinned** and **fall short** of the **glory** of God, 24 and are **justified** by his **grace** as a **gift**, through the **redemption** that is in **Christ Jesus**.

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F	A	L	L	S	R	G	I	G	J	A	T
T	Y	N	M	P	E	H	N	L	J	C	H
V	B	E	A	R	D	T	N	O	U	E	E
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V	J	B	I	P	M	O	D	Y	T	L	E
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S	J	L	E	E	T	S	D	R	F	H	G
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