

## SD#142 How God's Goodness Impacts Our Gratitude, Part 2

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with  
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Exodus 34:6 (ESV) *“The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.”*

#### Reflection Questions:

- 1) Do you think we can find God’s goodness through repentance?
  
- 2) What is your view of repentance?
  
- 3) How can repenting shift our view of gratitude?



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### Extended Devotion:

I have developed a deep love of Bible study over the past few years. The book of Psalms has always been a favorite of mine, but I've recently fallen in a deeper love with the book. Every emotion for every situation is beautifully articulated, culminating in a voice of praise to God. The writers always return to the refuge of the Lord, where they find peace as they surrender their sin and embrace thankfulness.

Remember that phrase from last week? "*Why do bad things happen to good people?*" We've all wrestled with this question, especially when we're walking through difficult circumstances. But here's the thing. We are not *good* people. No one is *good* on this earth (Romans 3:10). Although we stand in the righteousness of Christ, we will still fall short, still sin. Yes, that is a hard truth for us to swallow. But we live in a fallen world. We will also suffer for the cause of Christ, and we will meet temptations and walk weary roads of grief. But we are never without hope.

**Our faith can shift our feelings toward surrender.** Regardless of the trials and suffering we experience, our faith will shape our feelings of despair into hope. When we focus on God's goodness by thanking Him for every good and perfect gift, we won't have room for despair. God, in His goodness, extends grace that covers our shame. Our faith can move us into a place of surrendering our sin and embracing His goodness.

Psalm 107:8-9 (NIV) says, "*Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.*" Friends, God is so good! We can read accounts of His goodness all throughout Scripture. The more we embrace His goodness, the more we find thankfulness in the smallest of gifts.

### Application:

1. Read Psalm 107. Make a note of all the times God's goodness endures in the midst of the people's lack of repentance.
2. Choose one verse from Psalm 107 that stands out. Write it down and commit it to memory.

### Takeaway:

When we take time to repent, we find goodness in God's grace.

