

## Approaching God

### Begin your time with an opening prayer

Take a moment to quiet your heart and ask God to help you experience his presence today. Ask Him to free you from any distractions as you begin to read and meditate on today's passages.

### Today's Theme: God is Good

God is the standard of beauty, faithfulness, kindness, and truth. He is the source of all goodness.

## Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Slowly Read the Following Passages

**Start with Engaging the Text: Take a few minutes to highlight, circle, or underline key words.**

### 1 Chronicles 16:34-36

**34** Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. **35** Cry out, "Save us, God our Savior; gather us and deliver us from the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name, and glory in your praise." **36** Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Then all the people said "Amen" and "Praise the LORD."

### Psalms 119:57-68

**57** You are my portion, LORD; I have promised to obey your words. **58** I have sought your face with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise. **59** I have considered my ways and have turned my steps to your statutes. **60** I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands. **61** Though the wicked bind me with ropes, I will not forget your law. **62** At midnight I rise to give you thanks for your righteous laws. **63** I am a friend to all who fear you, to all who follow your precepts. **64** The earth is filled with your love, LORD; teach me your decrees. **65** Do good to your servant according to your word, LORD. **66** Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust your commands. **67** Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word. **68** You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.

### Matthew 7:7-11

**7** "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. **8** For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. **9** "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? **10** Or if he asks for a fish, will you give him a snake? **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!"

### Revelation 21:1-7

**1** Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. **2** I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. **4** 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." **5** He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." **6** He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. **7** Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

## Meditation - GOD IS GOOD

### Read the short essay from He Reads Truth

To say God is great is to focus on His power: He speaks creation into existence, makes the skies thunder and rain, and sets the planets in their orbits. But to say God is good is different; it is not just another way of recognizing His power. The goodness of God speaks to His personal character—who He is in relationship to us. In all ways and in all things, God is good. He is never absent, disinterested, careless, ill-tempered, petty, spiteful, or mean. He is set apart from all evil and does what is right, faithful, kind, and true. Always.

True goodness is defined by who God is. He doesn't just do good—He is good. In [Psalm 119:68](#), the psalmist prays, “You are good and you do what is good; teach me your statutes.” The key to understanding the goodness of God is learning who He is through His Word. If we don't learn His statutes, we will bring our own definitions and impose them on God. And when He doesn't do what we think He should, we will accuse Him of failing to be “good” by our own standards—not His.

In His goodness, God gives us what we need and withholds what we do not. If we ask for bread, He will not give us a harmful serpent or a useless stone, He will give us what we need ([Luke 11:11](#); [Matthew 7:9](#)). The God who withholds no good thing is the same God who gives no bad thing. Sometimes we don't realize that we ask God for stones and serpents. When we ask God to give us things that are useless or harmful, the good Father refuses. As sure as He will not give a serpent when His children ask for fish, neither will He give them a serpent when His children unwittingly ask for one.

Yes, God is great, but He is also good. All the time and in all things. He does good because He is good.

*(from the website: [hereadstruth.com](http://hereadstruth.com))*

## Daily Reflection Questions

1. What 1 or 2 verses of today's scripture passages *most* stood out to you? What was significant for you in those verses?
2. How would you briefly summarize what it means that “God is Good” in your own words?
3. In what areas of your life right now do you most need to believe and trust in this particular attribute of God? How might your life be different if you were able to trust and truly believe in God's goodness?

## Close in Prayer:

- What can I **REJOICE IN** as a result of today's study?
- What do I need to **REPENT OF** as a result of today's study?
- What do I want to **REQUEST FROM** God today?