



SUPERNATURAL
LIVING FOR
everyday life

A DISCIPLESHIP SERIES ON THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

PART 7:
Goodness

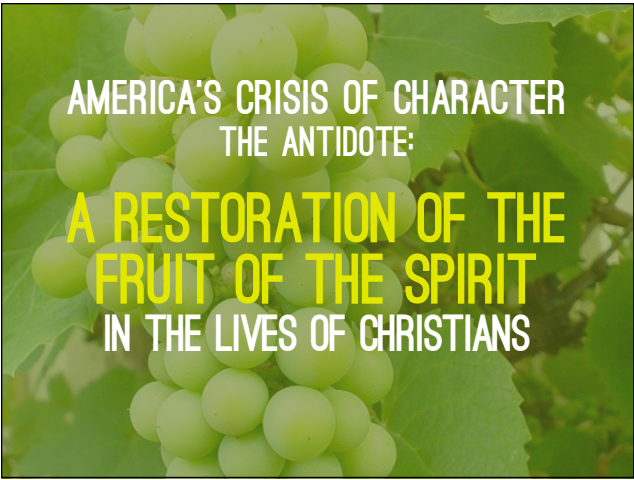
Portland
CHRISTIAN CENTER



“Christians have fallen prey to the same disease as their worldly counterparts. We think and behave no differently from anyone else.”

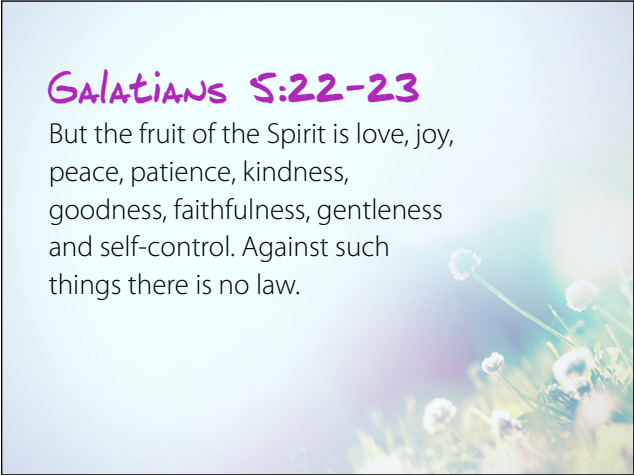
George BARNA





AMERICA'S CRISIS OF CHARACTER
THE ANTIDOTE:

A RESTORATION OF THE
FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
IN THE LIVES OF CHRISTIANS



GALATIANS 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,
peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness
and self-control. Against such
things there is no law.



What is Goodness?

Old English: Good = God

Jewish Tradition: "The Good" used
for God

GREEK TEXT

Good = Agathos

MORAL AND SPIRITUAL EXCELLENCE THAT IS KNOWN BY ITS ACTIVE GENTLENESS AND PRACTICAL KINDNESS.

Goodness

INTERNAL

Who we are

EXTERNAL

What we do

Goodness

INTEGRITY OF CHARACTER

The expression of my character that integrates the values of my heart into my daily actions.

Cultivating Integrity

I must realize that integrity of character is a **victory**, not a gift.

"Work out your own salvation with fear & trembling."

Philippians 2:12-13

"Character is simply a long habit continued."

Plutarch

Integrity of character is not handed to the Christian on a silver platter; it is a battle fought and it is a victory won in the trenches of life!

Cultivating Integrity

Though I demonstrate character in life's big moments, I must **develop character** in life's small ones.

"If you are faithful with the little things, you'll be ready for the bigger ones."

Matthew 25:23

"In great matters people show themselves as they wish to be seen; in small matters, as they are."

GAMALIEL BRADFORD

"Every little action of the common day makes or unmakes character... what one has done in the secret chamber [will one day] cry aloud from the housetop."

OSCAR WILDE

Cultivating Integrity

I must give greater effort to cultivating my **private character** than to crafting my **public image**.

"Provide people with a glimpse of the living God through your good living."

PHILIPPIANS 2:15 (MESSAGE)

What impresses heaven and impacts earth is simply the external expression of the internal reality of what God has done in you.

1 MY SPIRITUAL VALUES: RESOLVE TO BE FIRM

"Daniel resolved in his heart..."
Daniel 1:8



Growing Goodness

2 MY ASSIGNMENTS: WORK TO BE FLAWLESS

"Daniel so distinguished himself...by his exceptional qualities."
Daniel 6:3



Growing Goodness

3 MY CONDUCT: STRIVE TO BE FAULTLESS

"They could find no corruption in Daniel."

Daniel 6:4



Growing Goodness



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