

North Main

2024 | January Newsletter



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Goodness

Two Sides of the Same Coin

By Pastor Brandon

Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT), But the Holy Spirit produces this king of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things.

Since 2019 at North Main, we have been focusing on a fruit of the Holy Spirit every year. This new year of 2024 we will be taking a deep look at "goodness."

The Greek words for both kindness and goodness are very similar in definition, however, there is a subtle difference that separates the two. Goodness is closely tied to integrity in that it lies deep within a person as a character trait, whereas *kindness* is an action of *goodness*. Out of the heart of a person comes actions that are typically reminiscent of the very core of his/her nature. Sure, a person can fool anyone by acting "good" when in all reality they are morally corrupt, but eventually true colors come shining through.

Think of it this way: A bad person can do good deeds and still remain bad, but a good person with the fruit of the Spirit, which is goodness, will not only do good deeds, but also be virtuous and morally good. Consider this quote from William Barclay:

"Goodness goes a step further than kindness. Goodness is virtue equipped at every point. So, what is the difference between goodness and kindness? Agathousune [goodness] might, and could, rebuke and discipline; chrestotes [kindness] can only help. Thus, when Jesus went into the temple and drove the money-changers out, He showed goodness (Luke 19:45-46). When He forgave the woman who was caught in the act of adultery, He manifested kindness (John 8:10-11). At His trial He showed goodness when He challenged the official who struck Him in the face (John 18:23). Earlier in the Garden when one of His disciples took his sword and cut off the ear of the high priest's servant, Jesus demonstrated kindness when He touched the man's ear and healed him (Luke 22:51)."

As we press forward into this new year, let us resolve to be truly good people who manifest the fruit of the Spirit, goodness.



January 7th

The Fruit of Goodness (Galatians 5:22-23)

Key Point: "The fruit of goodness is rooted in being in, and doing, GOD's will."

January 14th

The Goodness of GOD (Genesis 1:1-25; Mark 10:17-19)

Key Point: "GOD is the measure of all that is truly good."

January 21st

The Goodness of Creation (Genesis 1:1-25)

Key Point: "The origin of all creation is rooted in goodness."

January 28th

The Goodness of Humankind (Genesis 1:26-2:3)

Key Point: "Humans, as the image-bearers of GOD, should reflect the goodness of GOD completely."



January Events

northmaincog.org/events

YOU'RE INVITED!

Sunday, January 7th @ 9am!

We have a series of four Membership Classes that we would love everyone who considers North Main their church home to attend. Childcare is available if you inform us of the need upon registration.

Register to: info@northmaincog.org



5 Week Class



8 Week Class

07

PRAYING IS (NOT) HARD

Sundays @ 9:00 AM

Meet upstairs in Jump Start

Do your feelings about prayer come with more baggage than a jumbo jet? Let's face it, sometimes praying is hard. And we don't always know why. We really want to pray, but somewhere along the path between wanting to pray and actually doing it, something is broken. We're left scratching our heads, wondering, Is there something wrong with me? Will this always be a struggle? In *Praying is (not) Hard*, Author Erica Barthalow reveals seven surprising hang-ups that may be sabotaging your conversations with God and gives practical steps to overcome them. **If you struggle to talk with God, this book could change the way you think about prayer forever.**

10

Father's Table

@6:30 PM

A monthly women's fellowship time that encourages holistic growth with Jesus and healthy connection with ourselves and others! Please bring a dish to share.

This meeting will be at Julie Natali's house, please RSVP to ConnieG@northmaincog.org for the address.

26

Churchwide Game Night

@6:30 PM

All Church Game Night! Open to all ages. Those 18 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Join us in the Life Center. Feel free to bring your favorite game. We will have some available. Bring a friend & a snack to share if you wish!

27

Women's Hike

@9:30 AM

All women aged 18 & up are invited to join us at 9:30 am for a 3-mile hike at Preston Park located at 415 S Eberhart Rd, Butler PA 16001. This will be an easy & relaxing hike that will take approximately 2 hours. Be sure to dress for the weather & bring plenty of water & snacks. Dogs are welcome but they must be kept on a leash. Please reply to Beth at bamjeep8@yahoo.com to let us know you'll be coming.

Table Talk

1/3 & 1/17 ONLY

Dinner @ 6:00 PM

Discussion @ 6:30 PM

Open to all.

Childcare for those 5th grade and younger.



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Online Resources

northmaincog.org



Media

For additional resources check out our Media page to access our Church App, RightNow Media, Prayer Request submissions, and more.



Events

For more information about events at North Main please make sure to stop by the Welcome Center or visit our website.



Give

We encourage all of those who are part of our Church family to give—not out of obligation but out of a spirit of worship.

Greeters

TRAINING & LUNCHEON



January 14th @ noon

Are you interested in serving with us on our front-line hospitality team? Are you already on the team? Everyone is invited! Join us for lunch as we go over our vision for 2024. We'll be providing lunch followed by a brief training. You are welcome to bring your children with you if needed. Please plan on being there from 12:00-1:30 pm. RSVP to Marylou Palmer at MarylouP@northmaincog.org.

FEBRUARY 4TH, 2023

child

dedication

SERVICE



REGISTER ONLINE AT
NORTHMAINCOG.ORG/DEDICATION