# Study 8: The Fruit of the Spirit – Goodness

## Talk About

“The ideals which have always shone before me and filled me with the joy of living are goodness, beauty, and truth.”- Albert Einstein. What impact has the goodness of others had on your life?

## Discussion

**GOODNESS- Read 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12**

1. Having seen their faith and love grow, Paul prays for the Thessalonians even more. What three things does he specifically pray for in verse 11?
2. The word for goodness (*Agathosune*) means “the active quality that constantly seeks what is right and beneficial for others”. What part do we and God both play in growing goodness in our lives?
3. What is Paul’s motivation for praying that God helps our goodness become a reality (v10, v12)? How does this inspire and encourage you to grow in goodness?
4. Consider some of the scriptures below – what do you learn about “goodness” from them?
	* Exodus 33:19
	* 2 Chronicles 6:41
	* Nehemiah 9:25,35
	* Psalm 23:6, 27:13, 69:16, 86:17, 109:21, 116:12, 142:7, 145:7
	* Romans 15:14
	* Ephesians 5:9
	* Hebrews 6:5
	* 2 Peter 1:3-5
5. Based on the scriptures, what is absolutely essential in growing goodness in our lives?
6. Who most needs to encounter the goodness of God through your life right now?
7. From the scriptures you’ve read today, what step will you take together with God so that goodness might flourish even more in your life and in the life of your fellowship or family?

## Prayer:

Invite the Spirit to fill the gathering of your life group/discipleship group. Pray for people who need the goodness of God. Pray for each other that this fruit might grow in us.