



Good God

April 3, 2022

Reflect + Discuss

- What is the best gift that a caregiver ever gave you? Or, what is something you asked for as a child that ended up being a good thing to not receive?
- Read Matthew 7:7-12. What observations or questions do you have? What parts are most challenging for you? What characteristics of God does Jesus emphasize within this passage?
- When have you seen God answer prayer in an amazing way, and when have you struggled with your prayers going unanswered? Share more about these experiences.
- On a continuum of assuming that God will give you everything you ask for (health, wealth, happiness, etc.) to not daring to ask Him for anything, where do you typically fall? What factors play into your approach to prayer (upbringing, culture, etc.)?
- What context does Matthew 7:7-11 bring to the “golden rule” in verse 12? How does this context change your perspective on treating others as you’d like to be treated?
- What is one step you can take this week to reflect and act on God’s goodness and generosity by doing for others what you would like done for you? What is one way you can start to build more prayer into your daily rhythms?

Pray

- Spend time praising God for who He is (good, generous, etc.) and for the ways He answers prayer. Also spend time opening up to God about your struggles with unanswered prayer.

Next Steps

- Choose one way this week to engage with God through prayer more often. Some ideas:
 - o Set an alarm to pray at a certain time every day
 - o Pray in response to specific cues (ex. Every time you hear a siren, when you brush your teeth, etc.)
 - o Set aside 5 minutes each night to write down a prayer or two, and to reflect on the ways you saw God move in your life that day
- When you think of God’s character, what are the first 3 words that come to mind? Thinking about who God is, are there characteristics that you know He has, but which don’t automatically come to mind for some reason? Take time to reflect on why you associate certain attributes to God more readily than others.