

# Maple Springs Baptist Church

Series: The Effective Life

Week 3: Adding Goodness

**“add to your faith”** We are to work out our faith in Christ by first supplying a generous helping of goodness.

What is goodness? In verse 3, Peter told us that God has “called us by his own glory and goodness” and in verse 5 we are to “make every effort to add to your faith goodness.” In other words, **we are called by goodness, and we are called to goodness.**

Goodness speaks to the quality of our character, to spiritual excellence and moral goodness.

**True goodness is born of faith.** Goodness has its beginning in trusting God and His Word. **Faith creates goodness and sustains it.** Those “great and precious promises” God gives undergirds your hope and energizes your life toward godly living.

John 8:28-29. Jesus aimed to please God. How do we please God? In **Ephesians 4:17-24**, Paul focusing on removing God-displeasing habits and putting on those habits that reflect God’s character.

1. **(Ephesians 4:17-19) Know the Life which you came from.** Paul notes 3 stages of descent into darkness.
  - a. **Wrong mindset.** (v 17)
  - b. **Hard heart.** (v 18b)
  - c. **Permissive lifestyle.** (v 19)
2. **(Ephesians 4:20-22a) Don’t underestimate the grip of the old life.**
3. **(Ephesians 4:22-24a) Practice the Principle of Replacement.** When we “put off” we must “put on” as well.
4. **(Ephesians 4:24b) Keep in Mind God’s intent for you.** God’s intent is for you to reflect His image.