

◆ **READ:** 1 Corinthians 2:12-16

1. Have you found what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 2 to be true in your life, in your interactions with non-believers? Do you have the Spirit of God in you, teaching you, and leading you? Do you have the mind of Christ? How can you know for sure?

◆ **READ:** Matthew 7:16-23, Matthew 25:35-45, James 2:14-18 and Luke 6:46

1. Scripture is consistent in telling us what God expects from those of us who call Jesus "Lord." Take the content of all four of these passages and paraphrase them with a few sentences of your own. How would you explain the big idea that all four of these passages are consistently teaching about the relationship of faith and good works?



◆ **MESSAGE NOTES**

GOOD FRUIT: Week 4 - Kindness & Goodness

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. ~ Galatians 5:22-23

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

"What is success? To laugh often and much; To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; To appreciate beauty; To find the best in others; To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived; This is to have succeeded."

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ~ Philippians 1:21

But these assets I have come to regard as liabilities because of Christ. More than that, I now regard all things as liabilities compared to the far greater value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things—indeed, I regard them as dung!—that I may gain Christ ... ~ Philippians 3:7-8

SKUBALOS ~ GREEK

Translated as dung,
it's actually a crass word for animal excrement or manure

CHRÉSTOTÉS ~ GREEK

"useful kindness."

AGATHOSUNE ~ GREEK

intrinsic goodness, natural, inherent,
inborn goodness that comes from being a child of God

*Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother."
~ Mark 10:18-19*

AGATHOS ~ GREEK

Root word for Agathosune, it means good

Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things that are freely given to us by God. And we speak about these things, not with words taught us by human wisdom, but with those taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual things to spiritual people.

The unbeliever does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him. And he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. The one who is spiritual discerns all things, yet he himself is understood by no one. For who has known the mind of the Lord, so as to advise him? But we have the mind of Christ. ~ 1 Corinthians 2:12-16

But I myself am fully convinced about you, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another. ~ Romans 15:14

*... Live like children of light— for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth— trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.
~ Ephesians 5:8-10*

*And in this regard we pray for you always, that our God will make you worthy of His calling and fulfill by His power your every desire for goodness and every work of faith, that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
~ 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12*

CHRÉSTOTÉS & AGATHOSUNE ~ GREEK

“useful kindness” and “Intrinsic godly goodness”

KINA’OLE ~ `OLELO HAWAI’I

“Doing the right thing, in the right way, at the right time, in the right place, for the right individual, for the right reason, with the right feeling, the first time.”

“Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” ~ Matthew 25:34b

... “Depart from Me, you accursed, into the eternal fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels!” ~ Matthew 25:41b

You will recognize them by their fruit. Grapes are not gathered from thorns or figs from thistles, are they? In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree is not able to bear bad fruit, nor a bad tree to bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will recognize them by their fruit. ~ Matthew 7:16-20

Not everyone who says to Me, “Lord, Lord,” will enter into the kingdom of heaven— only the one who does the will of My Father in heaven. On that day, many will say to Me, “Lord, Lord, didn’t we prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many powerful deeds in your name?” Then I will declare to them, “I never knew you. Go away from Me, you lawbreakers!” ~ Matthew 7:21-23

“For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, I was naked and you gave Me

*clothing, I was sick and you took care of Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.”
~ Matthew 25:35-36*

“For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink. I was a stranger and you did not receive Me as a guest, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.”- ~ Matthew 25:42-43

Then the King will answer and say to them, “Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did (or did not do) it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of these, you did (or did not do) it to Me.” - Matthew 25:40, 45 (Combined)

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Can this kind of faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, keep warm and eat well,” but you do not give them what the body needs, what good is it? So also faith, if it does not have works, is dead being by itself. But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith without works and I will show you faith by my works. ~ James 2:14-18

RICK WARREN

“If I have no love for others, no desire to serve others, I should question whether Christ is really in my life.”

“Why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and don’t do what I tell you? ~ Luke 6:46

❖ DIVE IN! ~ Discussion Questions

1. What was one thing Pastor G said this week that spoke directly to you?
2. Are you inspired by that to make a decision, make a change, or take some action in your life?

◆ READ: Philippians 1:21 and Philippians 3:3-11

1. What does Paul mean when he says “dying is gain?”
2. Why does Paul consider all his accomplishments and strengths before becoming a follower of Jesus “liabilities and dung?”
3. Paul says he now has a righteousness that comes from Christ’s faithfulness. How would you explain what that means to a person who is not yet a Christian?
4. What does Paul mean when he says he wants to share in the sufferings of Jesus and be like Him in His death?

◆ READ: Mark 10:18-19, Romans 15:14, Ephesians 5:8-10 and 2Thessalonians 1:11-12

1. The Mark passage is the first part of Jesus’ answer to the question “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” What else is required to inherit eternal life?
2. How do Paul’s words in Romans 5:14 and Ephesians 5:8-10 help answer this question?