THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD'S GOODNESS DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

JAMES 1:16-18



James 1:16 is a hinge verse in James 1. Take note of the transition from verses 13-15 to 17-18. If the transition has to do with deception, what is the focus of deception in 13-15 and then 17-18?

🥰 How do you respond when confronted about deception in your life? Are you approachable and ready to receive this kind of correction?

- Do not be deceived" is actually a warning sign, like one that says, "Caution" and then has a picture of a curvy road. People who see their own hearts as deceitful are not surprised at the curvy road ahead. What verses protect you from self-deceit? What relationships protect you from self-deceit?
- ♀ What truth about God or passage of scripture will you meditate on this week to protect yourself from deceit?

James reveals two truths about God's goodness in (v.17).

🖋 First, everything good comes from God. How would you define "good" in that statement? See Matthew 7:9-11 and Acts 14:17.

🖋 Second, God is always good to us. How would you prove that? What verses would you use?

What situations or circumstances do you struggle to believe that God is good to you?

🦚 Do you believe that EVERYTHING He has allowed in your life is for your good? Why or why not?

🗱 Do your attitudes, thoughts, words, and actions consistently reveal faith in God's goodness to you? Or are there things you think, say, or do that betray doubt in God's goodness?

What is regeneration (John 1:12-13; 3:3; Galatians 3:21; Titus 3:4-7; 1 Peter 1:3-5, 23; Ezekiel 37:1-10)?

Why do we need regeneration (Ephesians 2:1-6)?

What is the role of God's word in regeneration (1 Peter 1:23)?

What is the significance of our identity as "first fruits" among God's creatures (Deut. 18:3-4; 26:1-11; 1 Cor. 15:20, 23; 16:15; Rom. 8:18-25)?

Look up John 8:44 and James 1:17. Compare and contrast the "Father of Lies" with the "Father of Lights." Take time to think through your an-6 swer. When you are in times of trial, your sonship will be tested. Who is your father? How is your identity as a son or daughter of God brought into question during testing?

When tempted by Satan, how was Eve's view of God tested? (See Gen. 3) When tempted by Satan, how was Jesus' view of self tested? (See Matt. 4) We view fathers as those who should protect and provide for us. Actually, your Father in heaven is doing these very things for you every day, yet people often turn to self or others for protection and provision, instead of God.

PRAYER REQUESTS

How have you struggled to believe that God as your Father is protecting you or providing for you?

What is one practical thing you can do this week to apply what you have learned from (James 1:16-18)?