

# GOODNESS of GOD

## The Goodness of God to the Guilty

AUGUST 10, 2025

### WORSHIP (15 MINS)

**Venue: Home gatherings**

*Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.*

**Venue: Public place** (school, café, park, etc.) or **Via Online,**

*Testimonies: "What is your "high" or "your "low" this past week?"*

**Ask someone to do the opening prayer.**

### WELCOME (10 MINS)

**Welcome guests/first-time visitors.**

**Ice-breaker Question:**

1. Growing up, who in your life has been a spiritual guide to you and how has that person help you along the way?
2. Have you ever been caught with your hand in the "cookie jar?" What happened?

### WORD (30-45 MINS)

**Main Text: Read John 8:1-12.**

**Intro:** Even as Christians, we at times fall into sin, we're often quick to drown in guilt and shame—condemning ourselves. But have you ever wondered how God truly responds to someone who is a sinner or caught in sin? Here's a story of a woman brought before Jesus caught in the act of adultery. She was brought by the religious leaders to Jesus, hoping to trap Him. His response to the situation is what we should hold on to every time we stumble—every time we fall into sin. So, what did Jesus do to the adulteress before her?:

**1. He showed her mercy not judgment** – The law of Moses was clear as to what should be the verdict on this woman and the suspiciously missing partner in crime (some believe the man was a Pharisee), it was death. **Read Leviticus 20:10, Deuteronomy 22:22**

In the Jewish law, adultery was a serious crime punishable by death. The two others deserving of the same punishment were idolatry and murder. But more than enforcing the law their plot was to trap Jesus. So, the religious leaders came to Jesus condemning the woman thinking it is the way of God to deal with sinners. They stopped only and left after they got convicted when Jesus told them that he who is without sin among them be the first to throw the stone at her. Jesus, didn't even cast a stone. He showed her mercy.

Also, nothing was written about the woman asking for forgiveness but Jesus showed the goodness of God to her by being merciful. She was worthy to be punished but Jesus chose to show mercy.

**Q: So far, what has been the biggest offense done to you by someone?**

**Q: How did you go about forgiving the person who offended you?**

**2. He empowered her for a transformed life** – v. 11- "She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.""

After pronouncing mercy on the woman, Jesus didn't just give a command, He empowered the woman to live a new and holy life. God's mercy and forgiveness not only free sinners from the condemnation of sin but also empowers them by His grace to live as saints, walking in His righteousness. He showed God's goodness to the adulteress by not just forgiving her but helping her not to live in sin again, especially the grave sin of adultery. What's the point of mercy if she were left powerless to overcome her sinful nature? She would only return to adultery and suffer its devastating consequences.

**Q: When was the last time you felt condemned by a wrong thing you did? How did you recover from that situation?**

**Conclusion:**

v.12 – "Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.""

John 8: 12, Jesus declares, 'I am the Light of the world'—was spoken immediately to the people who were listening to Him teach at the Temple, after His encounter with the woman caught in adultery.

**Q: Have you ever wondered why Jesus made that statement right after that moment?**

Many of us don't just wrestle with guilt and condemnation caused by sin—we also feel powerless against it. But Jesus, the very expression of God's goodness in human form, is here today, offering Himself as our Savior and the Light of our world. When we allow His light to shine on our path, we are no longer bound by condemnation and are empowered to overcome sin, darkness, and evil.

Jesus alone is able to set us free from the lies of the enemy—lies that keep people trapped in shame, condemnation, and defeat. **Read Romans 5:8**

Even in our sin, before we ever repented — God already loved us. That love was revealed through Jesus' death on the cross.

The word "demonstrates" is in present tense. His love isn't just a one-time act in the past; but ongoing. He continues to love us today, no matter who we are or what we've done.

When we turn to Him from sin, He is the Light of the World who will give us the power to live a new life. He wants the world to know these truths.

So, how many of us are ready to make a decision to acknowledge Jesus as Lord and Saviour? If that's you, I would like to invite you to join me in a prayer of surrender to Christ's love and mercy today.

### WORK (15 MINS)

**Application**

1. Find a partner. Ask what you can pray for him/her then pray for each other.
2. Pray and prepare a Hit List (max. of 5-10 names of family, relatives, friends, schoolmates, workmates, neighbors, etc.) of possible people you desire to invite in the next life group gathering.

**What is your take-away from this lesson? Closing Prayer**