DISCUSSION GUIDE

GROWING IN GOODNESS
Romans 16:19
Not Ashamed (Romans) – Week 45

ICEBREAKER: If you could visit any Bible story in person just to watch it happen, which one would you choose?

OVERVIEW: In Romans 16:19 Paul told the church in Rome that he wanted them to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. In this context, goodness refers to good character and conduct. In this discussion we will go deeper with how to grow in goodness.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's sermon?)

2. Are you a good person?

3. How would you describe what a good person is?

4. Who is the best "good person" you have ever met, and what is it about them that makes them so good?

5. Reada Mark 10:17-18. Jesus said only God is good. Was He denying His own goodness? If not, what did He mean?

6. The sermon covered six ways to grow in goodness. The first is to avoid legalism. What is legalism, and how can you avoid it (see Eph. 2:8-9)?

7. The second way to grow in goodness is to avoid antinomianism (see Rm 12:9). What is antinomianism, and how can a Christian walk the line between legalism and antinomianism?

8. The third way to grow in goodness is to avoid self-reliance, or the mistake of trying to grow in your own strength (see Gal 5:22-23). What do you need to do to rely on God's strength and not your own for spiritual growth?

9. Read 2 Peter 1:5. This verse says that growing in goodness requires your very best effort. How can you balance making effort to grow while at the same time avoiding self-reliance?

10. Another way to grow in goodness is to avoid burnout (see Gal 6:9). What causes spiritual burnout, and what can you do to avoid it?

11. How do you need to grow in goodness (moral excellence), and which one of the six ways to grow from the sermon do you most need to apply to your life right now?

THE LAST WORD: "The one who says he remains in him should walk just as he walked." 1 Jn 2:6

CHURCH ACADIANA