



NORTHVIEW
STUDENTS
5th/6th grade

DATE(S)

November 13-14, 2021

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

Stuffed – Week 2

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

Be **STUFFED** with God's
goodness!

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Galatians 5:22-23; Genesis 3
Psalm 116:12; James 2:14-19

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements



THE OVERVIEW

OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

"Telepathy"

There are no right or wrong answers! The purpose is to read your partner's mind and answer the question identically. Students pair up and a question is asked with 4 options. Students will use their hands behind their backs to answer the question by holding up the number of fingers that matches their answers (4 options per question). On the count of three, they reveal their answers. If they answer the same, they stay together. If they answer differently, they find a new partner for the next question. There are 12 rounds.

OPENING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

ACTIVITIES

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week?

Other than turkey, what is the BEST food on the table at Thanksgiving in your house?

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

THE MESSAGE

"Stuffed" Week 2 – STUFFED With Goodness
November 13-14, 2021

Hey everyone! I appreciate the fact that all of you are here!! We are going to jump right into Week 2 of our STUFFED series. We are focusing on some different things that we need to be STUFFED with as Christians.

Alright, who here has seen the Despicable Me movies? It's all about a guy named Gru. He's trying to be the world's best villain and is kind of crazy and mean, but he starts out as a good kid trying to invent cool things to impress his mom. He fluctuates between villain and good guy, but the movie shows that deep down, he's a good guy...

(Teacher's Note: Show "Despicable Me" message clip)

Poor Gru. He can't impress anyone! If you've seen the movie, his villain days end when he adopts three girls as his daughters. No matter if his intentions were good or bad, deep down, he ended up realizing it was more fulfilling to be a good dad to his girls. There was good AND bad in him. In a similar way, is there good AND bad in us as well?

Our topic for today comes from a verse we read last week (and every week of this series) out of the New Testament: Galatians 5:22-23. Let's read that again to refresh our memories and include anybody who may be here for the first time today! Here's what Paul writes...

"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."

As a reminder, the word "Spirit" in this verse is referring to the Holy Spirit. Christians believe that the Holy Spirit is the same Spirit that lived within Jesus Christ to help him to do God's will. Obviously, there are a lot of traits listed in that verse, but I think there's probably one that could include many of the others: that trait is goodness. I think that a person of GOODNESS is someone that is also loving, joyful, peaceful, kind, etc. So, here's our THP (or Take Home Point) for today.

Be STUFFED with God's goodness!

As Christians, we believe every person bears the image of God because God created them! When God made the first two human beings, He said it was "very good." However, something happened to those first two people that totally changed the rest of the Bible.

THE MESSAGE

In Genesis 3, the first book of the Old Testament, we see Adam and Eve commit the very first sin when they disobey God. They were instructed they could eat from every tree in the garden, except for one. What tree do you think they ate from? Yep, the only one they couldn't. The Bible says they felt shame for the very first time. They were perfect human beings made by a perfect God and they were placed into a perfect, beautiful garden to live in. They had everything and gave it all up over one decision.

The rest of the Bible begins a journey for humankind to begin obeying God again, and time after time after time, they fell short and weren't GOOD enough to 100% fully please God. And yet, that didn't stop God from extending His goodness to them. People experienced God's goodness even in their failure. One of the writers of the book of Psalms even says in Psalm 116:12 – *“What shall I return to the LORD for all his goodness to me?”*

Eventually, everything changed...Jesus Christ, God in human form, was sent into the world and he was incredibly good. In fact, he was the very definition of good and he pleased/obeyed God every step of the way. He sacrificed Himself for us because God knew that we could never be GOOD on our own. Because of that sacrifice, we have been given His goodness. Now, when God looks at us, He sees Jesus' goodness and not our lack of goodness.

How awesome is that?! Even when we mess it up, God is there to help us see (with His help) that we can be the best and brightest source of good to the world. I don't know about you, but I want to be a “good person.” However, it isn't being a good person that pleases God...it's following and putting our faith in Jesus: the ultimate GOOD. Having said all that, why is this important for our lives? How can we show that same type of goodness to our world? How can we live out the type of goodness that we read about in Galatians 5 (the fruit of the Spirit)?

The New Testament was written in Greek and the original Greek word for goodness is *agathos*. The definition is pretty fascinating: it means “good that only comes from God and living that way **EVEN WHEN NOBODY ELSE IS THERE TO SEE IT.**” That is TRUE GOODNESS...and wow, that is a big challenge and a big wake-up call!

It's easy to be a good person...or at least attempt to be a good person...when someone else is watching. You want to impress your parents, your teachers, or even other friends. Some of you might have a crush on someone else at school and you make sure you're on your best behavior for that person! Maybe you try to be nice to someone just because you think you might get something in return. However, in all these situations, you could be doing it for the wrong reason(s).

THE MESSAGE

With God's help (just like Galatians 5 says), being good will be more about God at work within us. Here's another thing – we should be stuffed with God's goodness not because God will now owe us something. We should want to be stuffed with God's goodness just so we get more of God. That's all. We are good or become good because GOD IS GOOD! Through us! We want to obey God and therefore, we should be people of goodness.

I want all of you right now to think about who, in your opinion, is a "good person." What makes them that way? How do they treat people? Why do you look up to them or respect them? I bet it's safe to say that you probably want to be like them because they have impacted your life in some way. Students...if Jesus Christ changes your life and you are impacted by the way He lived His life, I can promise you with his help, you can also become full of goodness.

(Teacher's Note: Share a story where you have seen the goodness of God played out in your own life)

Many people think you can get to heaven simply by being a good person. The reality is that you can't be good on your own. You aren't perfect...therefore, you will never be good all the time. You won't be able to live up to your own standards. However, you can't also just simply believe in Jesus and expect God to be pleased with that. Listen to what the New Testament writer, James, says in James 2:14-19...

"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder."

It's not enough to believe – even the demons believe! Goodness is rooted in a deep belief in God, but it's also rooted in the right actions of following God. Right belief + right action.

I have a challenge for us as we look at our THP again: let's be STUFFED with God's goodness. The way we treat people matters, our actions matter, the words we say matter. Let's ask God to help us with those things so His goodness can be experienced by the world! Let's pray!

CLOSING SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

CLOSING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

What was the THP today and why was it important during the message?

During the message today, we talked about how no one can *actually* be good without God. Why isn't it enough to "just be a good person"?

Let's read one of the verses we heard in the message today from the New Testament: James 2:14-19. Will someone read that for us?

"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder."

Why does this verse say that it's not enough to just "believe in God"? What does it say we should do once we believe in God?

Who is someone in your life that is showing God's goodness in the way they live their life? How have they influenced you or inspired you?

How will the THP help you to live differently this week? Try to think of a specific example.

How can this group pray for you this week?

FINAL THOUGHTS

Breaksgiving is next weekend during service! Make sure to bring a friend, wear your pajamas, and come hungry!

After your group is finished with your discussion questions, close in prayer!

Encourage those students in your group who made first-time decisions or who made re-commitments to follow Jesus today! Tell them that this group is a support system for them and they don't have to do this life alone. If there is a student who makes a first-time commitment to Christ, have them text NVSNEXT to 85379 or fill out a response card so you can capture their information and our staff can follow up with them. Once your group discussion is over, close your group in prayer!



PREP NEEDS

SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
- Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)
- Playlister material

LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Stupid Video of the Week
- Message script
- Message slides

AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

- Pro Presenter or Playlister

