

Bad Advice: Good People go to Heaven



Have you asked yourself the question; 'how good is good enough to get into Heaven?' We forget the fact that Jesus never asked us to be 'good.' All He requires from us, is believing in Him. In fact, there is no other way to get to heaven. Doing good will not make you good enough. Believing in Jesus will.

Thinking Points:

1. Why do people choose to ignore God's extension of grace, instead choosing to work, work, work as hard as we can to please Him?
2. Read Romans 3:9-12. Who does Paul declare is good enough?
3. Consider Romans 3:22-24. How does Paul say we can be good enough? What needs to happen?
4. God's grace is undeserved. Spend some time thinking about the nature of God's grace.

Next Steps

One of the criminals hanging alongside cursed him: "Some Messiah you are! Save yourself! Save us!"

But the other one made him shut up: "Have you no fear of God? You're getting the same as him. We deserve this, but not him—he did nothing to deserve this."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you enter your kingdom."

He said, "Don't worry, I will. Today you will join me in paradise."

Luke 23:39-43 MSG

Consider the story of the criminal on the cross - it is a beautiful example of grace. The criminal had none of his life left to give to Jesus. All he had was his belief that Jesus truly was the Son of God, and that was enough for Jesus to promise him entry into Heaven.

1. This story illustrates that it isn't about what we do, it's about **who Jesus is**. Who is Jesus to you? What has He done for you?
2. **Grace > Good**. Grace is based upon what Jesus has already done for us, whereas good is reliant on us, and we always fall short.
3. **Grasp Grace**. Take hold of grace and live, knowing you are secure in your relationship with Jesus. You don't need to prove anything to Him.
4. **Be Gracious**. Extend that same undeserved grace to the people around you. You will be creating opportunities for people to experience Jesus in a new way.

Romans 3:22-24

"This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."