



God filters everything through his goodness lens. Our father has no evil intentions. That means that whatever He sends our way comes to us from a God who knows all, can do all, and filters every decision through his complete and total goodness. If he knows about it, he knows it so he can help you with it and bring goodness from it. There is no better guarantee in all the earth.

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

**POWER & TRUST.** Most people start by describing God as all-powerful and all-knowing. But that alone could describe a hero or villain. How does God being “all good” shape your understanding of God’s power and knowledge?

**THE RECURRING STORY: GOD IS FAITHFUL.** Read **Nehemiah 9:1-33**. Circle key transition words like “but” or “nevertheless.” What do you notice about the way God keeps his covenant and how we—his people—act toward the covenant? Why do you think God remains faithful? Discuss: doesn’t that turn God into a doormat or enabler? Why or why not?

**GOD IS WHAT IS RIGHT WITH THE STORY.** Think of examples where God remained faithful even when we, his people, were faithless. Any New Testament examples come to mind?

**FALSE FRIENDS & OUR FAITHFUL FATHER.** Read **Proverbs 20:6**. Share stories of faithlessness or lack of trustworthiness in your everyday life. Why is faithfulness hard to find? Follow-up: Read the Lord’s Prayer in **Matthew 6**. Note the 6 characteristics of a good father: Present, Pure, Powerful, Provider, Pardoning, Protector (taken from James Bryan Smith’s *The Good and Beautiful God*). How do these describe a good father or a faithful friend?

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TRUST?** Read **1 Corinthians 10:13**; **Romans 8:28**; **Lamentations 2:22-24**. Discuss: how can we trust God when we don’t understand his decisions, or our present difficulty?

Group Introduction Activity: Engage in a “Trust Fall” experiment.