

Superabounding Goodness

John 14:1-14



Not as good as it should be

What are some things that are not as good as they should be?

How do we respond?

Lower our expectations. Or bitterness or despair. Or have hope in _____

What gives us hope for something better that isn't just wishful thinking?

The world is not as good as it should be

Why would we think that the world should be better?

Memory

Very Good

"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." Genesis 1:31

People choose what is less than "very good"

Bible's word: "Sin"

Sin brought "decay unto death"

Hope

Superabounding Good

Released from "decay unto death"

"Freedom and glory"

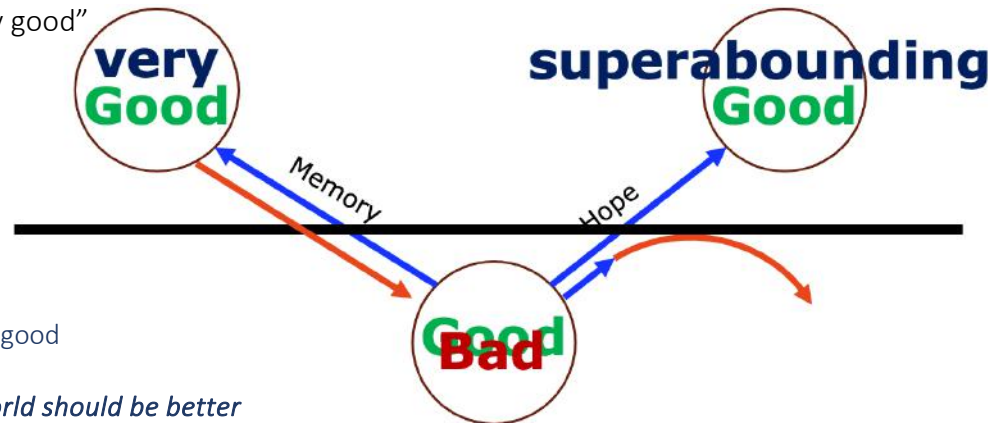
And yet

People keep choosing less than very good

"Decay unto death" is inescapable

We can't stop believing that the world should be better

But we can't get there



John 13: Trouble

People were looking for a conquering hero

In Jesus, they got a radically humble leader

One of Jesus' chosen disciples will betray Jesus

Jesus was going to leave them "Farewell discourse"

The task wasn't finished (they weren't free)

They'll be on their own

Despite great claims to courage and loyalty, even Peter will deny simply knowing Jesus ... 3 times!

This was troubling to the disciples!

John 14:1-14

1-4: Why not be troubled? Jesus announces both the Destination and the Means

5-7: Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life

8-10: Jesus is both the Destination and the Means

11-14: Show and tell the hope of Superabounding Goodness

Jesus' disciples will also show what ought to be

The Son of God

Jesus lived perfectly in every way that people fail

"Decay to death" couldn't stop His indestructible life

The Big Idea

Superabounding goodness is in and through Christ alone

Apart from Him there is only the decaying memory of goodness

The Son of God (Jesus) is the only way...
to escape the "decay to death" of our world
and to experience the superabounding good of God

Application

1) Don't be troubled = Hope in Jesus Christ

We still live in intertwined Good and Bad
In knowing Jesus, by faith we also know the Father
We have a downpayment from God
The presence and power of the Holy Spirit today
The full experience of glory when Jesus returns
Superabounding goodness
This hope is only for those who place their trust in Jesus Christ

2) Point to Jesus as the true and only hope for what we know should be

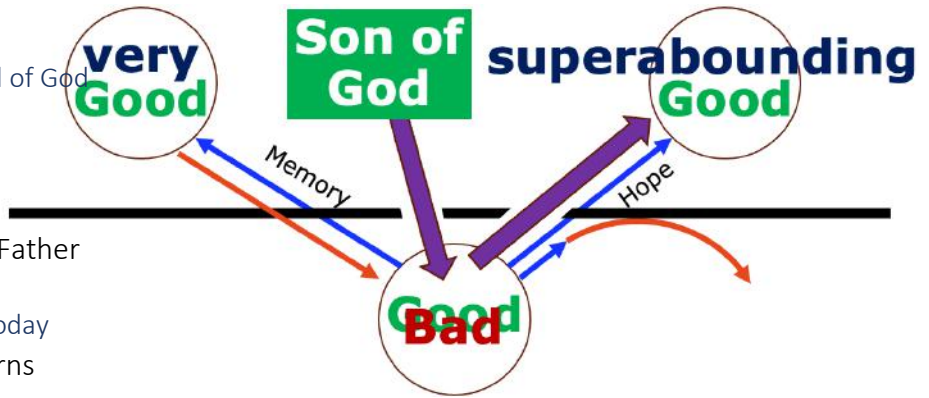
Not reform, or better education, or technique, or technology, or a better leader, or withdrawal, or ...
Only Jesus can...
bring the ways of heaven into today
bring the fullness of superabounding goodness
All other hopes fall short

3) Boldly do the works of Jesus

"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it." John 14:12-14

To see Jesus was to see God

Jesus intends that His people would also be a visible and tangible expression of God
through bold prayer and obedience



Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. What troubles you in our world?
2. How do you tend to respond to trouble? Complaining? Blaming? Despair? Trying harder?
3. What helps you put your hope in Jesus?
4. What would it look like to boldly do the works of Jesus, empowered by prayer?

Conversation Starters

Is the world as good as it should be? If not, why not? What is the hope?

