

Addressing God By Name
UMC Towanda
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Psalm 1: Seven Questions

Introduction -

“God is Good, all the time!” (Response)

1. What goes through your mind when you say the phrase?

- Is it personal?
 - Is it merely memorized?
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2. What allows you to say “God is Good?”

- Your experience with God through life situations
 - OUR experience . . .
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3. What does it mean to address someone using a personal greeting?

- Do you typically include someone’s name?
 - How is the situation different when you use someone’s title instead?
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4. What type of address do we use when we say, “The Lord is Good?” (Read Complete Jewish Bible)

- Are we speaking “about” The Lord or speaking “to” the LORD?
 - Do YOU consider this a personal greeting or a formal greeting?
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5. What are the options if we don’t choose what is GOOD? (Read The Message)

1. Walk in the counsel of the wicked - those who act contrary to what is good
 2. Stand in the path of sinners - those who abandon goodness
 3. Sit in the seat of scoffers - those who make fun of goodness
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Blessed is the man who . . .

1. Delights in The Lord’s Teaching
2. Meditates on The Lord’s Teaching
Personal, effective, life-giving

6. What results from these different choices in behavior?

- Wicked** - dry up and disappear
- lack the strength to stand
- Righteous** - prospers
- bears fruit for others
- withstands difficult times

7. Why does it matter that we “Know God’s Name?”

- Only then do we truly know that the LORD is Good, that Adonai is Good, that YHWH is Good
- Only then do we truly experience the life-giving teaching from a student-teacher perspective
- Only then does our trust in the LORD allow us to withstand the difficult life situations we will encounter

Closing

“God is Good, all the time!” (Response)

Ps 1:1 How blessed are those

who reject the advice of the wicked,
don't stand on the way of sinners
or sit where scoffers sit!

2 Their delight
is in ADONAI's Torah;
on his Torah they meditate
day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams —
they bear their fruit in season,
their leaves never wither,
everything they do succeeds.

Ps 1:4 Not so the wicked,
who are like chaff driven by the wind.

5 For this reason the wicked
won't stand up to the judgment,
nor will sinners
at the gathering of the righteous.

6 For ADONAI watches over
the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked
is doomed. (CJB)

Ps 1:1 How well God must like you—

you don't hang out at Sin Saloon,
you don't slink along Dead-End Road,
you don't go to Smart-Mouth College.

2 Instead you thrill to GOD'S Word,
you chew on Scripture day and night.

3 You're a tree replanted in Eden,
bearing fresh fruit every month,
Never dropping a leaf,
always in blossom.

Ps 1:4 You're not at all like the wicked,
who are mere windblown dust—

5 Without defense in court,
unfit company for innocent people.

6 GOD charts the road you take.
The road they take is Skid Row. (The Message)