



God is good!

God is so good! There is no-one else like Him!

This month I just can't help but want to declare the praises of God, and give Him all the glory for all the great things He has done and is doing in the world, in our lives, and in my life!

1. God is so good because He made this awesome great world for us to live in!

"The LORD, who created the heavens, He is God; He fashioned and made the earth, He founded it; He did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited."

Isaiah 45:18

What an awesome place it is - the trees, the flowers, the mountains, the hills, the rivers, the valleys, the oceans and the seas. I think the earth is an amazing place, and it is just so beautiful! When you take the time to look beyond what we as humans have done to wreck the place, you can see amazing design, intricate detail,



astonishing beauty! Whether in the littlest of things, or in the wildest stormy day, the power and majesty of God as revealed in creation is just absolutely awesome. Praise God!

2. God is so good because He has given us hearts and minds which are able to respond with joy and amazement at His creation and at life!

"O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your Name in all the earth! When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, what is man that you are mindful of him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honour!"

Psalms 8:1-5

Have you ever thought about just how amazing it is that we even can comprehend, observe, and enjoy the world around us! What a gift! What an amazing privilege. I think it is just an absolutely awesome thing that we are able to resonate with joy and return thanks and praise to our Maker, and worship Him. It is the ultimate experience. We are so blessed to be able to do this!

3. God is so good because He is able to forgive us for the wrong things we have done, and remove all the guilt from us, so that our hearts are free again to enjoy Him, people, and life, without any feelings of shame!

“If My people, who are called by My Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2Chronicles 7:14

This is so amazing, but also so real and true! God can take away every burden of shame and guilt from your life today! God took all our rubbish and sins and dealt with it all through Jesus Christ on the cross nearly 2000 years ago¹. Because of that, we can be thoroughly FREE from all the hang-ups from our past! The truth is, that in Jesus Christ, everything in our lives can be made new², and we have an awesome future to look forward to, praise God! And it can start right now for each one of us!

4. God is so good because He is totally in control of everything that is happening in our world, and He invites us to trust Him with all of our troubles and burdens.

“The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him.”

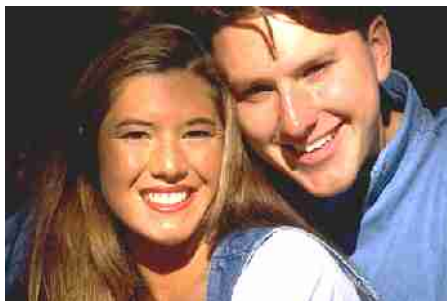
Nahum 1:7

Isn't that great! God wants to handle all our problems for us; He wants us to call out to Him for help, and hand over to Him all our burdens, because He loves us and wants us to experience a carefree life as we obey Him! It's that simple, and as a result, life can be so joyful.

Who ever said we need to worry about anything? Certainly not God! He wants us to give everything into His hands and enjoy the pathway He is unfolding before us. The Bible says: "Nothing can separate us from the love

of God"³ - God wants the best for you and me. Isn't that amazing! God is so good!

Jesus said: "No one is good - except God alone"⁴. In fact, the Bible says that every good and perfect gift is from God⁵. We are His creation. He has wonderful plans for our lives⁶, because He loves us so much. He wants us to be obedient children, and so enter into all the goodness, life, and love He has in store for us⁷.



God is great! God is good! God is good all the time!!

Let us praise God in prayer:

*Heavenly Father,
You are absolutely awesome, and I
praise You for just how good You have
been to me.*

*Forgive me for neglecting You.
Have mercy on me for my sins,
And right now I want to forgive all
those who have sinned against me,
too.*

*God, please bless us heaps,
And please especially bless my
enemies, so that there can be peace
between us all.*

Thank you so much, Father.

*I pray in Jesus' name,
Amen.*

(1) Colossians 2:13,14. (2) 2Corinthians 5:17. (3) Romans 8:38-39. (4) Mark 10:18. (5) James 1:17.

(6) Jeremiah 29:11. (7) Romans 1:5; Joshua 1:7,8.

My Answer

Q. Dear Chaplain, how do you know that God is really there if I can't see Him or touch Him?

A. Let me first say that I agree with you that you can't see or touch God. God is spirit, and the Bible says that no-one has ever seen God¹. Knowing that God is there is a spiritual thing. You must go beyond your five physical senses, but not bypass them.

So, how do I know that God is there?

First, the pull in my heart. When people speak and preach about God, I feel the truth of Him in my heart - something resonates within me and draws me to want to communicate with Him. There are times when I look at the stars, the oceans, the mountains, and a deep desire also wells within me to say 'Wow' and to say 'Thank you' to Someone, to praise Someone. It is as if creation itself is also speaking to me to draw forth praise from within me.

Second, when I do talk to God, this 'Someone', and praise Him and give Him thanks, and address Him as 'Heavenly Father', a great peace and joy fills my soul, and somehow I know deep down that I really am communicating with Someone who is there, and that I am not just talking into thin air.

Third, when I read the Bible, whose every word is supposed to be inspired by God², I actually feel the truth of the words when I am 'really listening'. The words encourage me, convict me, challenge me. There is something about the Bible which just really speaks into my soul. It really is like food for my soul.

Fourth, when I study the Bible, it makes sense. It is logical. The account in the Bible makes sense to my mind of how the world really is and what I experience. I have discovered that the Bible's message is true to reality in every respect: history, geography, cosmology, psychology, morality - everything. The Bible explains all my longings and desires, and helps me understand all that I am going through. For example, I mentioned in the first point above that I felt creation 'speaks to me', and that is exactly what the Bible says: "The heavens declare the glory of God ... no speech or words are used ... yet their message goes out to all the world and is heard to the ends of the earth."³

Fifthly, when I do what the Bible actually tells me to do, everything it promises comes true. I have experienced the forgiveness of my sins by confessing my sins and trusting in Jesus, as the Bible tells me to⁴. I have experienced joy and peace by praising God and worshipping Jesus, just as the Bible says I will⁵. God is delivering on His promises!!

These five points bring me, personally, to say that God is there. I cannot prove that God is there in the scientific sense (just like you cannot scientifically prove that love exists), but I believe He is, and I act upon it. And this has given me life!

(1) John 1:18. (2) 2Timothy 3:16. (3) Psalm 19:1-4. (4) 1John 1:9; Romans 10:9-10. (5) Philippians 4:4-7; Galatians 5:22.

News & Events

You're invited to our next

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

*a Christian Worship
Service
for the whole community!*

- **Sunday September 21st**

**** THIS WEEK !! ****

(the 3rd Sunday of the month)

- **5pm - 6.15pm**
(followed by supper!)



- **Preston Nth East
Primary School Hall**

Bring your whole family!



Peter Kutschker
Community Chaplain, East Preston /
Reservoir (03) 8430 8574
5/3 McLennan Place, Preston, 3072

A ministry supported by Regent Baptist Church
and LinC Northern Region

FREE FAMILY BBQ

Saturday 20th Septemeber

12-3pm

(Cnr Crevelli & Blake St)

This BBQ is being hosted by the Darebin Community Building Project. Come along and find out about the project and ways you can join in!



Facepainting,
free entertainment
– Italian Womens Choir, Chilean
singing group, balloon art, decorate
your bike competitions, lucky dips,
prizes, 3 legged races, painting and
children's activities.

HALAL BBQ NO ALCOHOL

BYO Plates.

**Drinks (Primas) for
sale.**



ALL are WELCOME!