

Say It: *Let us not become weary in doing GOOD, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*
Galatians 6:9



GOODNESS

The Value of a Good Name

Devotion 206

Think About It: In the blanks below, write the *first* words that come to mind when you think of these people:

- Hitler _____
- George Washington _____
- Osama Bin Laden _____
- Christopher Columbus _____
- Jesus Christ _____
- Judas Iscariot _____
- A war hero _____
- A comic book villain _____
- Your pastor _____
- Your best friend _____
- Your favorite coach _____

Talk About It: Read each question aloud and share your thoughts.

1. **List** a few famous athletes, musicians, actors or celebrities, and **share** the **first** words that come to your mind when you say their names.
2. What people think about you is called your “reputation.” **How** do you get your reputation? Once you develop your name (reputation) at school, **why** is it hard to change it?
3. Together **read** aloud 1 Timothy 3:7. This verse mentions “the devil’s trap.” **How** can having a **bad** reputation make you feel as if you are in a trap? **Why** is it easy to continue acting the way that people already think of you?
4. **Share** the types of things students do that give them either a **bad** reputation or a good reputation.
5. **How** do you escape the “trap” of a **bad** reputation?
6. Together **read** aloud Proverbs 3:3-4. **What** two things do you need to have a “good name” in the eyes of God and people?

Grow It: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, GOODNESS, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*
Galatians 5:22-23



7. **Give** an example of how someone you know has shown love to someone else and this act has given this person a reputation of **goodness**.
8. **Share** an example of a student you know who has been faithful to God in church attendance or in lifestyle so that others consider him or her as having a good name.
9. **Read** Proverbs 22:1. **How** can a good name be better than “great riches?”
10. **Explain** how asking God and others for forgiveness when you do something wrong can help you to get your good name back again.

Live It: Who might hear your name and have negative thoughts about you?

Go to that person today and ask him or her to forgive whatever you did to cause disappointment or bad feelings. **Ask** for forgiveness in person so that your sincerity is reflected in your eyes and in the tone of your voice.

Take back your Good Name!

Read It: Search God’s Truth for answers to the discussion questions.

1 Timothy 3:7 He must also have a GOOD reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

Proverbs 3:3-4 ³ Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴ Then you will win favor and a GOOD name in the sight of God and man.

Proverbs 22:1 A GOOD name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.