

## Suggested Resources

Below is a list of resources that will help you dig deeper into the topic preached about this morning:

- Bill Johnson - *God is Good: He is Better Than You Think*
- Leif Hetland - *Seeing Through Heaven's Eyes*
- Greg Boyd - *Is God to Blame?: Going Beyond Pat Answers to the Problem of Suffering*
- Jessica Kelley - *Lord Willing? Wrestling With God's Role in My Child's Death*
- Dorothy Cole (editor) - *Servant God: The Cosmic Conflict Over God's Trustworthiness*
- Rex Burgher - *Our Father's Heartbeat*

## Suggested Bibles

We teach from the Bible on Sundays and encourage you to read the Bible throughout the week. Here are a few recommended versions of it:

- Quest Study Bible
- NIV First-Century Study Bible
- NIV Study Bible
- Teen Life Application Study Bible
- Kids Quest Study Bible

## Digging Even Deeper

Here are some additional questions for personal reflection:

1. In *The Treasure Principle* Randy Alcorn writes, "...understanding ownership was only half of my lesson. If God was the owner, I was the manager. I needed to adopt a steward's mentality toward the assets He had *entrusted* — not *given* - to me." Is this your mentality when it comes to what's in your bank or investment accounts? Why or why not?
2. Read Psalm 50:9-12 and Haggai 2:8. During the sermon a Key Thought was shared that tithing every week or pledging for the Giving Campaign is not so much about money than about being obedient to God and then trusting Him. Giving is a vehicle of trust. What are your thoughts on this perspective?
3. Read 2 Cor. 5:7. What would it look like if you truly began to walk by faith and not by sight when it came to the portion of money you choose to give away, whether it is to our church, orphans in Brazil, or to the single mom down the street?

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**It's Black-and-White For a Reason...** One of our values is to be inwardly frugal so we can be outwardly generous. That's why this program is black-and-white and printed on plain paper. Printing them this way cuts our costs way down. So this program may not be fancy, but it gets the job done. This is one of the things we do that enables us to give away 22% of our budget to the poor and needy in our community and beyond.

THE  
**eastsidevineyard**<sup>®</sup>  
CHURCH



For we walk by faith, not by sight.

## God is Better Than You Think

February 26, 2017

Week 6 of series: Family on Mission

**We want people to encounter God on Sundays and not just "go to church." That is why today's 75-minute service will include an in-depth Bible teaching, communion, worship (feel free to stand or sit as we sing), and an opportunity to receive 1-on-1 prayer.**

# God is Better Than You Think

Dan Kopp (lead pastor - The Eastside Vineyard Church)

Notes:

## Digging Deeper Questions

*In our fast-paced culture, it's easy to be impacted by the sermon you hear at church on Sunday... only to forget about it by Monday. To make this message "stick" we created these Digging Deeper Questions so you can process and apply what you heard at church. Take some time this week to go through these questions by yourself, in your small group, with a friend, your family, or your roommate.*

1. Icebreaker: What are some events, activities, or objects that exceeded your expectations, that turned out to be better than you thought they'd be? You might mention a movie, a vacation, a book, a concert, a job, or something else altogether. Have fun with this question!
2. Is there anything you heard in this week's sermon or experienced in this week's service that was an "aha" moment, something significant for you?
3. Read Exodus 20:12, and think back to when you were a kid. Share some good memories about your dad or a man in your life who was a primary father figure. What did he do for a living? What was his favorite food? How was he like "Superman" to you?
4. Our current series is called "Family on Mission." Prior to Sunday's sermon, what did you think the word "mission" meant in that phrase? How has your answer changed after hearing the sermon?
5. When you think about God, what are some words or phrases you would use to describe Him? (Suggestion: Fill in this blank: "God is \_\_\_\_\_").
6. Keeping your answers to the previous question in mind, consider this quote by Tom Ewall in *Servant God*: "When thinking of God, it is more likely that we would conjure up words such as *holy, righteous, powerful, omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent* . . . Jesus Christ never referred to God as "Judge" but referred to Him as "Father" well over a hundred times. Yet, if one is asked to describe God, "Judge" is a more likely response than "Father." What are your thoughts on Ewall's perspective?
7. In *God is Good*, Bill Johnson writes, "The world has seen a divided Church, an angry Church, a materialistic Church, and the list goes on. What would happen if they were to see a Church whose very countenance has been transformed by seeing Him, His glory — His goodness? This is what the world is crying for; they want to believe it's true — that God is good." What are your thoughts on Johnson's comments about God's goodness and the church?
8. In reality, God is good, and He is even better than you think He is! It is the mission of our church to embrace God's goodness and reveal it to the world.
  - What are some practical ways we can live out this mission in our 24/7 ministry facility?
  - What are some things you need to do to embrace the truth of God's goodness in the deepest part of your soul?
  - What are some action steps you can take to live out the mission of sharing God's goodness during "the other 10,005 minutes" when you aren't at church on Sunday mornings?

### Key Passage:

***Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory." And the Lord said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you... - Exodus 33:18-19 (NIV)***

**Reminder... There are Digging *Even* Deeper Questions on the back of this program. Those questions are for personal reflection.**