

*And it was good....*

Moving from Thanksgiving to Christmas, we delight to give gifts to one another, and our grateful thoughts turn toward the **good** gifts our Father has given us. We know that “every **good** gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” (James 1:17) From the very beginning, he provided us all we need in His creation: “God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very **good**.” (Genesis 1:31) Our hearts respond, “Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is **good**; for his steadfast love endures forever!” (I Chronicles 16:34)

However, the goodness and steadfast love of our Lord recognized that we needed far more than a pleasant situation in which to live. Our sin demanded for us a salvation we could not provide for ourselves, one greater than we could even imagine. Thus, he came, explaining, “I am the **good** shepherd. The **good** shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (John 10:11) Now, in the newness of life he has provided through His blood, we declare, “You are **good** and do **good**; teach me your statutes.” (Psalms 119:68)

At times, though, our lessons are difficult. We are tempted to complain and cry for relief. But then we are reminded, “It is **good** for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.” (Psalms 119:71) Because “we know that for those who love God all things work together for **good**, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son....” (Romans 8:28-29a)

This amazes us—that we should be conformed to his image! And, not only his image, but his actions as well: “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for **good** works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10) This includes telling of his goodness and salvation to the very ends of the earth: “And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the **good** news!” (Romans 10:15) *Thanks to you* for being part of these good works this year, participating with us in training missionary aviators to carry the gospel of salvation to the ends of the earth!

“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and **good** hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every **good** work and word.” (2 Thessalonians 2:17, all verses from ESV)

Merry Christmas!

*Gene Jen*

**Ministry Support:**

Mission Aviation Fellowship  
PO Box 47, Nampa, ID 83653 | 800-359-7623

**Correspondence:**

c/o Moody Aviation  
6719 E Rutter Ave, Spokane, WA 99212 | 509-535-4051

