*God is good!* **All the time!** *All the time,* **God is good!**

The above is often said at Conference.

Wrote letter to my mum yesterday. Why? Not to gain favour/love (have that already), not from guilt (left the country), but because I want to – aware each letter might be the last. Compare this with God.

We do God’s will not because we want God’s favour (we already have that), not from guilt, but because “God is good”.

[1] Recognising God’s goodness

Harvest - good starting point. Not to say all creation is perfect; it is fallen and marred, but still bears the marks of the Creator. Plenty to recognise. Sunrise/set; babbling brook; seascape; structure of a flower. Even seen in health worker catching Ebola – beauty of wanting to care despite the risks; or in the commuinty care following earthquakes in Christchurch.

Before we can do anything else we need to look for and recognise God’s goodness. “God is good”.

[2] Receiving God’s goodness

Restorative Justice. Eg Minor vandalism; through RJ face up to crime. Will it make a difference? Only if goodness offered is received. Also true of God. Imagine man in Mark 2.1-12 refusing healing/forgiveness!   
God offers forgiveness, not because we deserve it but because “God is good”.

[3] Being part of God’s goodness.

Thomas dressed up as Superman; he wanted to be like him, wanting to be part of Superman’s goodness. Commendable.

Wouldn’t it be great if we could do want God does? Who would not want to be part of his Kingdom?

Many opportunities – flower arranging, music playing, visiting, working in the community.

We do this not to gain God’s favour, but because “God is good”.

Mark 2.1-12: Here God’s goodness is recognised in Jesus who heals illness, here God’s goodness is received in a word of forgiveness, here God’s goodness is shared in friends who go to great lengths to help.   
Yes “God is good”.