

## Tough Truths About the Good Life

1 Peter 3:10-12

We all desire the good life God promised,  
but there are tough truths you must embrace to experience it.

1. There is tough \_\_\_\_\_ to the good life.
  - a. Brokenness is the \_\_\_\_\_ to the good life.
  
  - b. Your flesh \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ resists brokenness.
  
2. There is tough \_\_\_\_\_ for the good life.
  - a. Tame and \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  - b. Turn and \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  - c. Seek and \_\_\_\_\_.
  
3. There is tough \_\_\_\_\_ from a good God.
  - a. God turns away from the \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  - b. God \_\_\_\_\_ to the righteous.



*First Peter*

*To God's Chosen Ones*



*Tough Truths About  
the Good Life*

*1 Peter 3:10-12*

# 1 Peter 3:8-9

To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; not returning evil for evil, or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.

# 1 Peter 3:10-12

For,

*“The one who desires life, to love and see good days,  
must keep his tongue from evil  
and his lips from speaking deceit.*

*He must turn away from evil and do good;*

*He must seek peace and pursue it.*

*For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous,*

*And His ears attend to their prayer,*

*But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”*

We all desire the good life God promised, but there are tough truths you must embrace to experience it.

# **Tough Truths**

There is tough resistance to the good life.

# Psalm 34:12-18

Who is the man who desires life,  
And loves length of days that he may see good?  
Keep your tongue from evil,  
And your lips from speaking deceit.  
Depart from evil, and do good;  
Seek peace, and pursue it.  
The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous,  
And His ears are open to their cry.



## Psalm 34:12-18

The face of the LORD is against evildoers,  
To cut off the memory of them from the earth.

The righteous cry and the LORD hears,  
And delivers them out of all their troubles.

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted,  
And saves those who are crushed in spirit.

# **Tough Resistance**

*Brokenness is the gateway  
to the good life.*

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The face of the LORD is against evildoers,  
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The righteous cry and the LORD hears,  
And delivers them out of all their troubles.

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted,  
And saves those who are crushed in spirit.

The LORD is far away from those  
who have it all together.

And will not save the self-righteous.



**1 Peter 5:5**

...for God is opposed to the proud,  
but gives grace to the humble.

# A quick survey:

## **Psalm 51:17**

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;  
A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

## **Isaiah 57:15**

For thus says the high and exalted One who lives forever,  
whose name is Holy,  
“I dwell on a high and holy place,  
And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit  
In order to revive the spirit of the lowly  
And to revive the heart of the contrite.”

## **Isaiah 66:2**

“For My hand made all these things,  
Thus all these things came into being,” declares the LORD.

“But to this one I will look,  
To him who is humble and contrite of spirit,  
and who trembles at My word.”

## **Mark 2:17**

And hearing this, Jesus said to them,  
“It is not those who are healthy who need a physician,  
but those who are sick;  
I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

# Tough Resistance

*Brokenness is the gateway to the good life.*

*Your flesh vehemently and cleverly  
resists brokenness.*



# The general disposition of your heart.

## **Ezekiel 2:4**

I am sending you to them who are stubborn and obstinate children.

## **Ezekiel 3:7**

...the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, since they are not willing to listen to Me.  
Surely the whole house of Israel is stubborn and obstinate.

## **Acts 7:51**

You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did.

If you think this applies to Israel  
and not to you, your heart is  
stubborn and prideful.

# Your resistance is vehement.

Galatians 5:17

For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for **these are in opposition** to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

*Your flesh is at **war** with the Holy Spirit.*

# Your resistance is clever.

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-20

For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

And the cleverness of the clever I will set aside."

Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe?

Where is the debater of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

If you believe that your flesh no longer cleverly resists the message of the cross, you are deceived.

# The threat of self-deception:

**1 Corinthians 6:9**

Do not be deceived...

**1 Corinthians 15:33**

Do not be deceived...

**Galatians 6:7**

Do not be deceived...

**James 1:16**

Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren...

# Manifestations of pride:

Anger or frustration with others

People pleasing

Defensiveness

Insensitivity

Perfectionism

Worry

Withdrawal or separation

# Tough Truths

There is tough resistance to the good life.

There is tough work for the good life.



The tough work for the good life is only tough because of your sinfulness.

Tough Work

*Tame and true.*

**1 Peter 3:10-12**

For, *“The one who desires life, to love and see good days,  
must keep his tongue from evil  
and his lips from speaking deceit.  
He must turn away from evil and do good;  
He must seek peace and pursue it.  
For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous,  
And His ears attend to their prayer,  
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”*

# An evil tongue?

Profanity and vulgarity

Gossip

Ridicule or mockery

Insults or dismissal

Slander and empty criticism

**True it.**

**1 Peter 3:10-12**

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*must* **keep** *his tongue from evil*

*and* ***his lips from speaking deceit.***

*He must turn away from evil and do good;*

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# A deceitful tongue?

Lying

Hypocrisy

Flattery

Insincerity

Empty promises



**James 1:26**

If anyone thinks himself to be religious,  
and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart,  
this man's religion is worthless.

# Tough Work

*Tame and true.*

*Turn and do.*



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and his lips from speaking deceit.  
He must turn away from evil and do good;  
He must seek peace and pursue it.  
For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous,  
And His ears attend to their prayer,  
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# Evil works?

Sexual Immorality

Greed

Gluttony

Violence and Anger

Worry

Withdrawal and separation

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Godliness is not simply avoidance;  
it is active goodness.

Praying

Encouraging

Giving

Serving

**James 4:17**

Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do,  
and does not do it, to him it is sin.

# Tough Work

*Tame and true.*

*Turn and do.*

*Seek and pursue.*

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The pursuit of peace is the pursuit  
of reconciliation.

**Colossians 1:19-20**

For it was the Father's good pleasure...to **reconcile** all things  
to Himself, having made **peace** through the blood of His cross.



Reconciliation is the heart of the gospel  
and the calling of Christian ministry.

**2 Corinthians 5:18**

Now all these things are from God,  
who reconciled us to Himself through Christ,  
and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

**Hebrews 12:14**

Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification  
without which no one will see the Lord.

# Tough Truths

There is tough resistance to the good life.

There is tough work for the good life.

There is tough love from a good God.

## Tough Love

*God turns away from the evildoer.*

**1 Peter 3:10-12**

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**1 Peter 5:5**

...for God is opposed to the proud,  
but gives grace to the humble.



God actively opposes you in your pride.

# Tough Love

*God turns away from the evildoer.*

*God attends to the righteous.*



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# Conclusion:

God desires for you to taste the good life now, but you will need to humble yourself, wage war against your flesh, and joyfully do the work of righteousness.