



# Holiness in Action

Redefining the biblical concept of goodness.

A visual field guide based on the teachings of Galatians 5.

# Goodness often starts in the quiet simplicity of shared lives.

## The Benchmark

Arnold and Evelyn Shuff. Hubston, 40 years ago. A childless couple in their 70s befriending a young family in their 20s.

Hosted weekly Bible studies, shared everything they owned freely, and routinely invited their neighbors over for meals.

There was no show, no fanfare. Their entire lives were defined by a simplicity of goodness.



A guaranteed weekly meal with an open door.



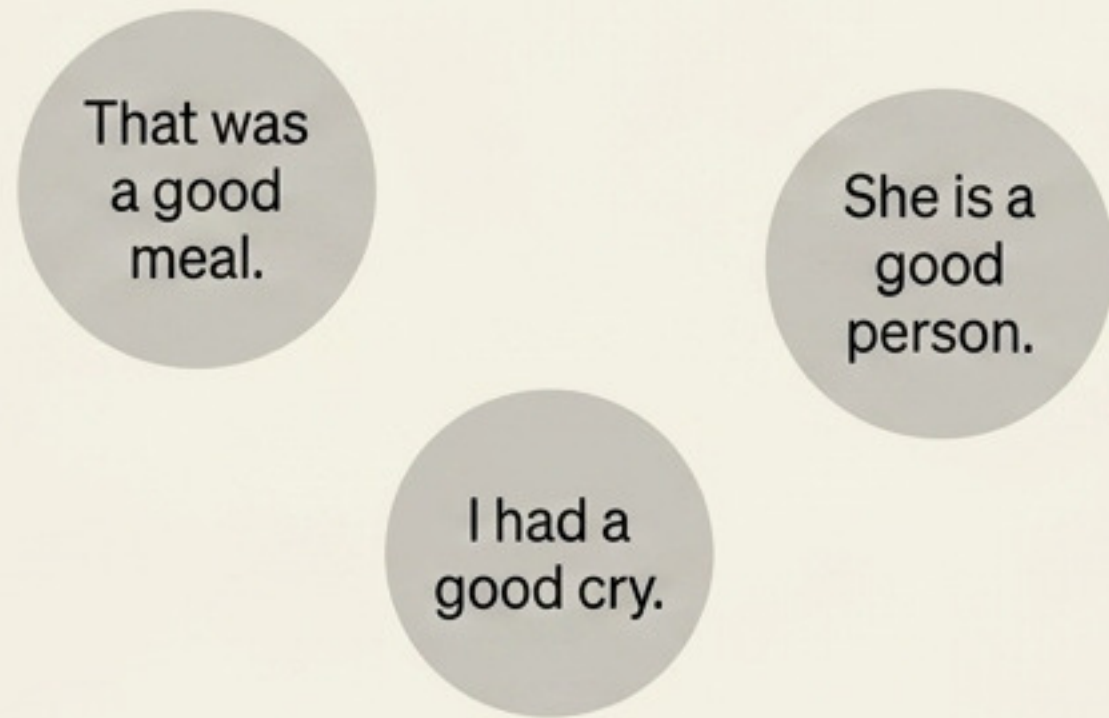
A hidden stash of Hot Wheels kept specifically for a visiting three-year-old.



# We have diluted the definition of goodness.

## The English Dilution

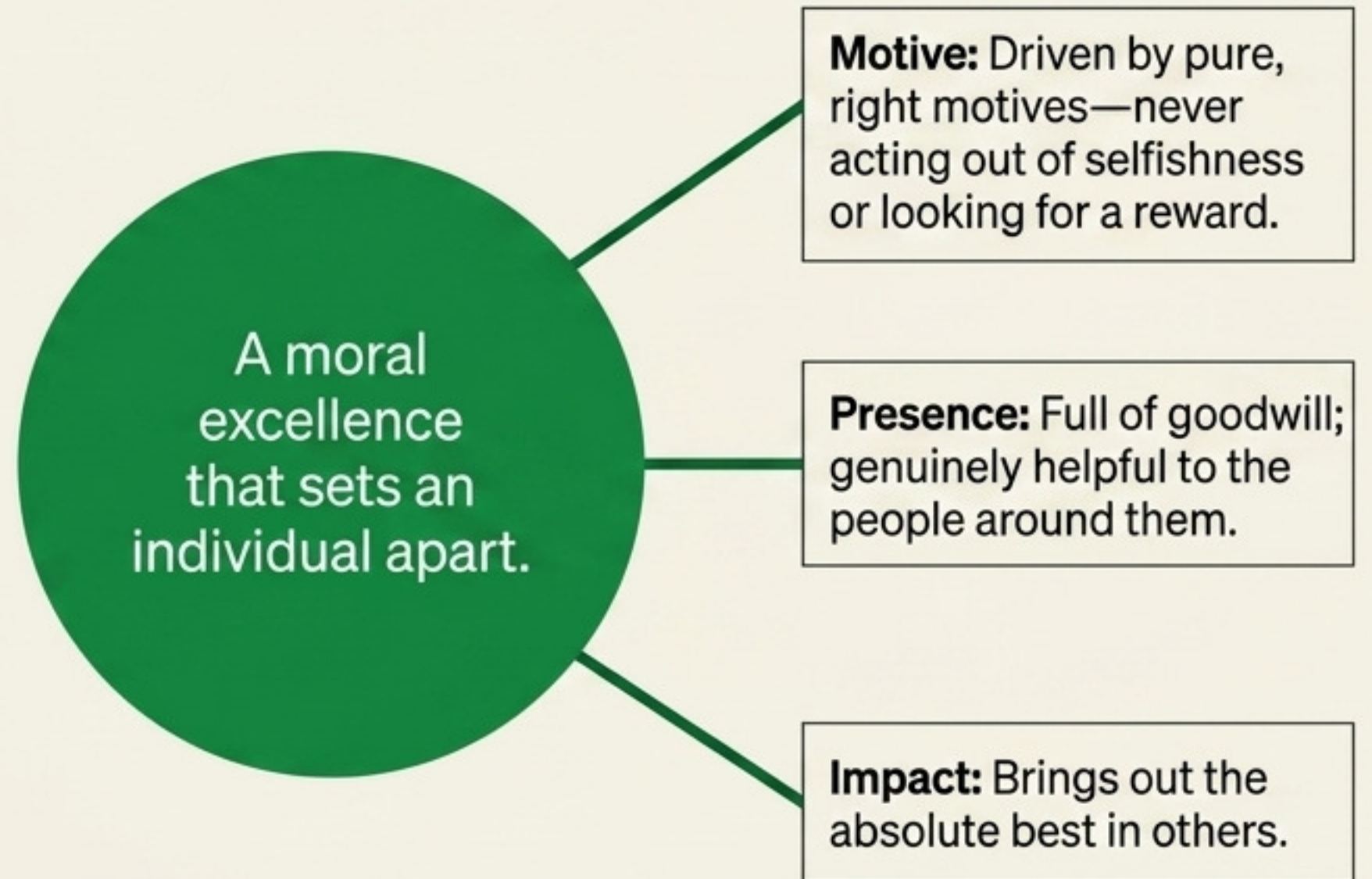
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We treat 'good' as a synonym for pleasant, compliant, or satisfying.

## The Apostle Paul's Definition

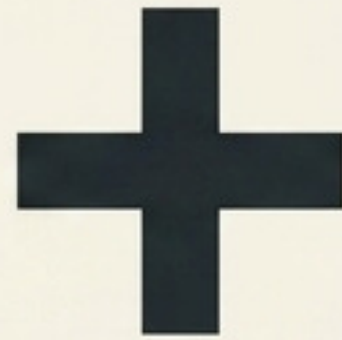
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# Goodness is not a passive state. It is an active virtue.



Holiness



Action



True Goodness

Holiness without action is not true goodness. It is active, forward-moving goodness driven by a generous desire to bless others that gives holiness its purpose in our lives.

# The danger of the “sit still and be good” fallacy.

	The Fallacy (Passive)	The Reality (Active)
The Goal	Keeping a child out of trouble for a moment.	Setting righteous activity into motion.
The Method	Simply avoiding bad behavior.	Fulfilling Godly purposes through faithful activity.
The Output	Positive thinking.	Love in action, actively expressing goodwill toward others.

**The command of our Savior is not to just sit still and be good. It is to get up out of your pew and walk.**

# The anatomy of a good person.

Joseph of Arimathea	Jesus	Barnabas	The Landowner
<b>Courage</b>	<b>Transparency</b>	<b>Encouragement</b>	<b>Generosity</b>
<p><b>The Action:</b> Requested the body of Jesus from Pilate to wrap it in linen and provide a dignified rock-tomb burial.</p> <p><b>The Cost:</b> Acted against intense political pressure to do nothing.</p>	<p><b>The Action:</b> Remained completely honest and upright despite a widespread rumor campaign designed to discredit Him.</p> <p><b>The Cost:</b> Refused to engage in deception or concealment of the truth.</p>	<p><b>The Action:</b> Traveled to the church in Antioch, yielded to the Holy Spirit, and actively encouraged new believers to remain true to the Lord.</p> <p><b>The Cost:</b> Dedicating one's life to fostering the grace of God in others.</p>	<p><b>The Action:</b> Paid workers hired in the last hour the exact same denarius as those who worked the heat of the day.</p> <p><b>The Cost:</b> Rejecting stinginess and envy to actively express goodwill.</p>

# The modern world does not read theological statements.

The world observes those who profess to be Christians.

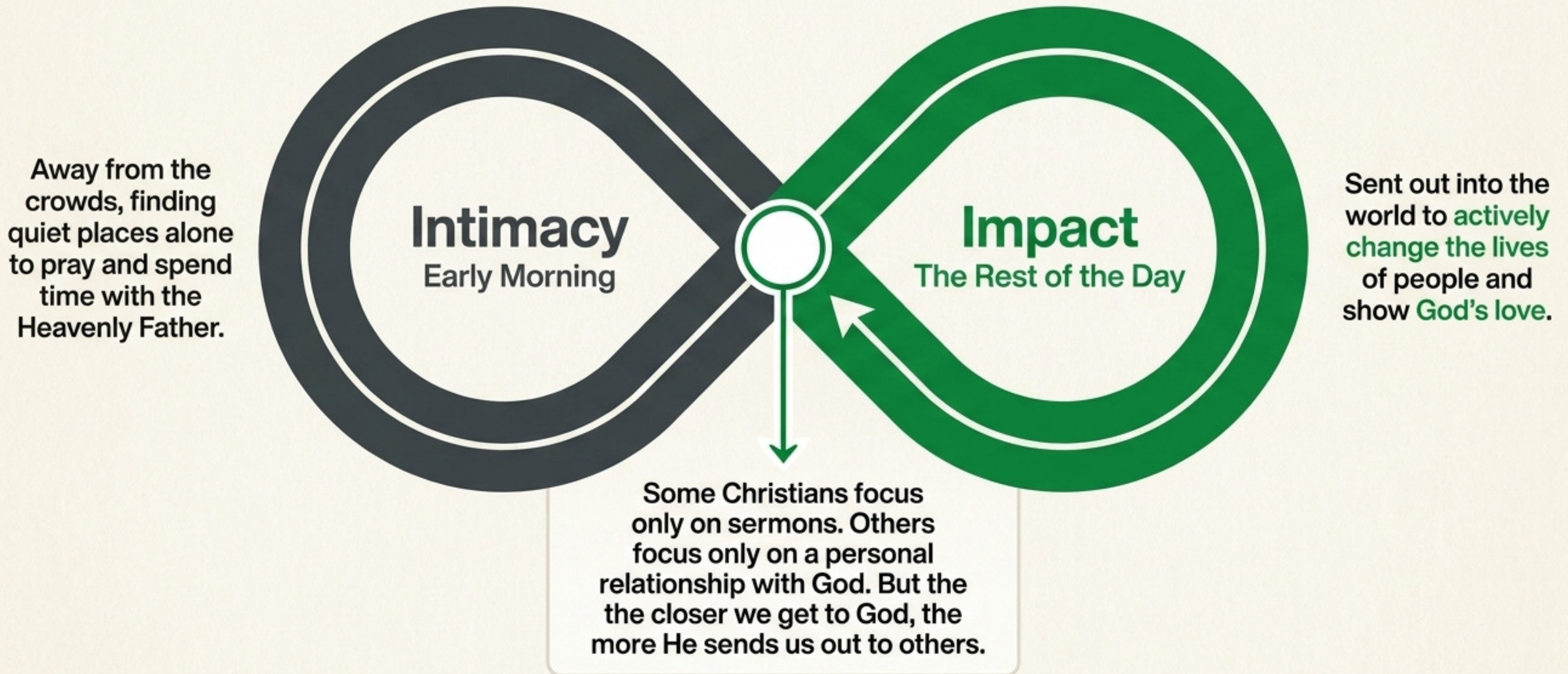
How do they evaluate what they see?

~~Do they ask, "Is it right?" → NO.~~

They ask, "Does it actually work?" → **YES.**

Christians talk about <b>love</b>	→	But do they <b>treat each other with love</b> ?
Christians talk about <b>forgiveness</b>	→	But do they <b>hold grudges</b> ?
Christians talk about <b>caring</b>	→	But how do they <b>treat weak and needy people</b> ?

# The Jesus Pattern requires an unbroken cycle of intimacy and impact.



# Leaving the church building is where the duty begins.

## The Warning of James

Anyone who merely listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and immediately forgets what he looks like when he walks away.

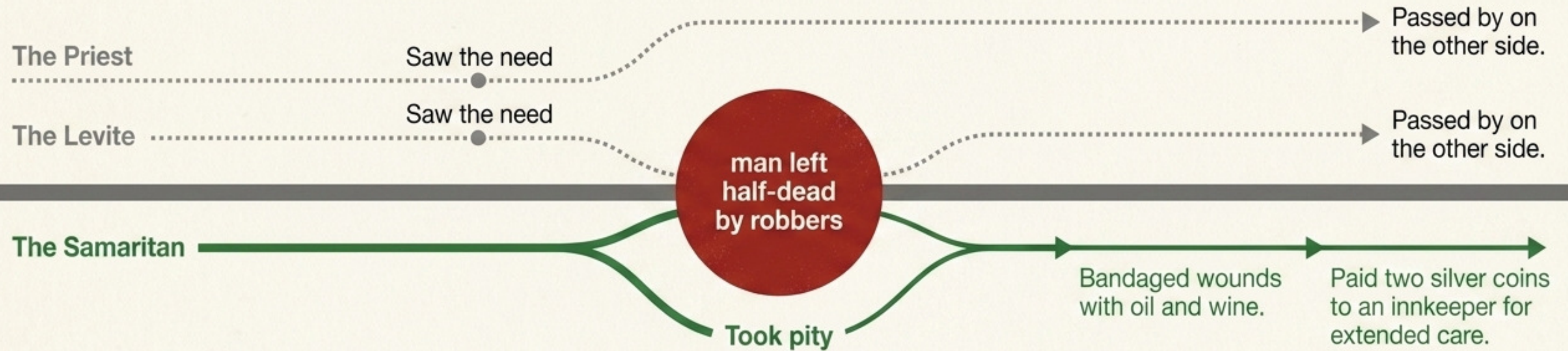


## The Application

Listening to sermons is good, but it is not the extent of what God desires. Goodness is Christian love in action.

**When we leave a church facility on Sunday morning, we have not checked off our Christian duty for the week ahead.**

# Active goodness demands involvement and mercy.



Goodness involves itself in the lives of others. It costs time, effort, and resources to show undeniable mercy.

No regrets for a life of kindness.

I have wept in the night for the shortness of sight that to somebody's need made me blind. But I never have yet felt a twinge of regret for being a little too kind.

— Anonymous

Yield control to the Holy Spirit, and let the undeniable proof of your goodness share the message of Jesus with the world.