

notes

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- James 4:17 "Therefore to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin."

- We are made alive together with Christ.
- We should live in gratitude to embrace our new nature.
- God uses our new nature to bring others to faith in His Son and glory to His name.
- Ephesians 4:1 "Walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which we have been called."
- Cheap vs. Costly Grace
- Are we living in our nature?

- The Kingdom of God is wherever God reigns and since He reigns everywhere, His kingdom is everywhere.
- You are right now seated in a Heavenly Place, as part of Gateway Church, in the Kingdom of God.
- We have been invited to the Kingdom by Grace through faith.
- We did not earn nor buy our spot in the

- We live in God's Kingdom for a purpose greater than our own growth and that is to glorify God and love Him forever.
- Remember where you are. Remember who you are in Christ.

4. We exist to **DO HIS WORK** in His Kingdom v 10

- We are God's work of art and special design.
- We are God's unique creation.
- We were created to work collectively and individually
- God is creating capacity within us on "this side of the threshold."
- Equally important work continues on "The other side of the threshold."

As you leave...

- Let's work together to make the invisible kingdom visible.
- Let us together bear witness to the Kingship of Christ in our lives.
- Let us live as citizens of Heaven and subjects of the King.

"If you want to go fast go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

ONE SERIES- Kingdom
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Jim Pitkin

Prayer Requests:

Read: Ephesians 2:1-10

Group Discussion: Talk about the contrast of **who we were** compared to **who we are** in Christ. Be vulnerable. Be accountable. Can you think of other scripture that underscore this idea?

Discuss Dietrich Bonhoeffer's idea of "Cheap Grace". What does that look like in our church? What does that look like in your life?

Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline. Communion without confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ. **Costly grace** confronts us as a gracious call to follow Jesus, it comes as a word of forgiveness to the broken spirit and the contrite heart. It is costly because it compels a man to submit to the yoke of Christ and follow Him; it is grace because Jesus says: 'My yoke is easy and my burden is light.' His point was that following Jesus meant being changed -- being someone new. Paul says we have been raised from death to life by the grace of God (grace that cost God His Son). Are we new? Does our life reflect this change? Is God's grace cheap or costly to us?

Look at verse 6. What does being "raised up" mean?

What are the works you are called to do? Think both spiritually and practically.

What are the benefits of being invited into God's Kingdom?

Read Ephesians 2:1-10 each day this week. Then consider Romans 12:2

"And do not be conformed to the world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

Pray for one another.