

## It's amazing how fast we can lose our sense of *wonder*.





For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you...

Ephesians 1:15-16

When we hear testimonies of faith, we are hearing public admission of guilt, repentance of sin, and faith in Christ alone.

When we witness baptisms, we are witnessing obedience to a command of Christ, profession of faith, and hope in resurrection.

When we receive in membership, we are receiving someone as a member of our family, and they are voluntarily committing themselves to our church's authority, care, and spiritual leadership.





And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedienceamong whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.





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









