

## **LIFE GROUP GUIDE – Week Starting Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

### **Key Scripture – Ephesians 2:1-10**

#### **This Week's BIG IDEA**

An authentic church community will receive and learn to share the full message of salvation.

*"We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope."* (Tim Keller)

#### **Focusing on God**

Spend some time worshiping God, praising the Father for raising the Son by the Spirit! Consider a song/songs that help us see both aspects of the central truth outlined above, such as 'In Christ Alone', 'And can it be', 'Come behold the wondrous mystery', 'How deep the Father's love'.

#### **Intro Questions**

- When you think of your salvation – or the message you have heard – do you lean more towards a message of rescue from peril, or an invitation into love and joy?
- If you found Philip Ellwood's beach story helpful, do you tend to think more of being saved from drowning or enjoying fish and chips afterwards?

#### **Getting into Scripture**

Read Ephesians 2:1-3

- Why is it that God directs holy wrath at sin and sinners? In what way is this good news (justice for the harmed) and in what way is this sobering news (judgement for our sin)?
- Do we understand hell as the inevitable destination for rejecting God, from which God mercifully rescues many? Or as somewhere God is arbitrarily and unfairly sending people?
- Read Romans 1:23-25. How does this help us understand sin better (as idolatry, not just law breaking)?
- If you are a Christian, was there (or has there been since) a moment in which you were convicted of your sin and realized your need for forgiveness and rescue from wrath and hell?

*NB a truly authentic community will be honest with each other about how this makes us feel (it's hard!) AND we will submit these feelings to scripture, we'll come before God in humble prayer and welcome the perspective of mature believers.*

**Now read Ephesians 2:4-10:** How wonderful is the 'But' if you know what came before!!!!

- How can we help each other live in the good of resurrection life and 'the incomparable riches of grace'? We don't want to simply stay rescued on the beach, relieved but to live in the good of fish and chips, family, joy, and boasting in our Father who saved us (through our perfect older brother)!

#### **Missional & Pastoral Prayer**

Philip shared that an authentic understanding and receiving of salvation must result in an authentic sharing of this message. How are you doing in these areas?

- Humbly (Ephesians 2:8-10)
- Gladly (or urgently)
- Visibly (Ephesians 2:10)
- Verbally (Romans 10:14-15)
- Patiently (2 Peter 3:9)

Pray for each other and name those who you want to share with. Remember the [Engel scale](#)!