

MESSAGE: By Grace Alone

TEXT: Ephesians 2:1-10

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Community Group Questions

Introduction:

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be God!

Who has blessed us!

_____, _____,
_____, _____,
_____, _____,
_____, _____,
_____.

We were _____ and _____ to

respond to God. (Romans 5:12,18-19)

We were _____,

_____ and heading for _____. (Eph 2: 1-3)

We were all once _____. (Eph 2: 1,5)

Salvation is entirely a work of _____ through faith. (Eph 2:4-9)

Our good works are _____ of our salvation, not the

_____ of it. (Gal 5:22-25; Rom 3:10,20)

READ Ephesians 2:1-10

1. How do you relate your own previous sinful condition to verses 1-3? Why is our natural condition described as 'dead'?
2. What sorts of works do some people think contribute towards their salvation? What impact do these works have in their understanding of God's grace?
3. Consider your notes from Sunday. What specific actions has God done for believers, found in chapter one? (1:4-14) Discuss each of these in light of 2:1-3. How does a deeper understanding of our depravity, combined with a deeper understanding of our blessings, increase our worship of God?
4. What motivated God to save us? (v. 4) Discuss how His motivation is magnified against the backdrop of our spiritual deadness.
5. Why does Paul reiterate salvation by grace through faith and not of works? Read Galatians 2:11-16 and note how quickly believers can revert to works.
6. After all the emphasis on salvation being an entirely gracious action of God's through faith, and not of works, why does this passage close verse 10 calling us to works? (Discuss this 'fruit' of our salvation as opposed to 'root' of our salvation)
7. How does spending some time reminding ourselves of our previous condition propel our worship and evangelism through good works? Does knowing He 'prepared' the good works 'beforehand, that we should walk in them" increase our obedience and trust to do them?
8. What good works have you been putting off that could be a witness to others in South Delta, helping them glorify our Father who is in heaven?

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven".
Matthew 5:14-16 ESV