Message: We Believe Week 2: Caution - God at Work Sermon Notes

Scripture: Ephesians 2:4-9

"But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:4-9

The Doctrine of Original Sin: the human race exists in a condition of brokenness.

WHAT IS THE UNSEEN, INVISIBLE WORK OF GOD THAT MAKES SALVATION POSSIBLE?

1. GOD WORKS BY DRAWING US TO HIM.

"'And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die." John 12:32-33

2. GOD WORKS THROUGH THE CONVICTING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

"When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment." John 16:8

"'Woe to me!' I cried. 'I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.'" Isaiah 6:5

"Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death." 2 Corinthians 7:10

3. GOD WORKS BY PROVIDING A WAY BACK TO HIM.

"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." Matthew 7:13-14

"There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death." Proverbs 14:12

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

4. GOD WORKS TO REGENERATE OUR HEARTS.

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26