LIVE BY FAITH

Eph. 2:1-10

SERMON SUMMARY:

Is God good? This is a key question that has been asked for centuries. There are times when, based on how things play out, we question God's judgment. If He were really good, would this or that happen? In our text today, we will face the reality of all humanity and see that God is good. Because of His goodness, we can have life and a future.

SERMON OUTLINE:

The Realm of Death

The <u>unholy trinity</u>: The <u>world</u>, the <u>Devil</u>, and the <u>flesh</u>.

We all begin as children of wrath.

The Realm of Life

"But God..." shows us His goodness.

Life comes when we are joined with Christ.

Life is a <u>free gift</u>, and cannot be <u>earned</u>.

Our Response

Be made alive by placing your faith in Christ.

Walk according to His purpose and your design.

THINK ABOUT IT/TALK ABOUT IT:

- Have you ever asked yourself if God is good?
- Consider the so-called "unholy trinity," what forces do you see at work today? How?
- Why is the doctrine of original sin key to understanding grace and mercy?
- Discuss the significance of the phrase "But God..."
- Talk about the phrase "Life comes when we are joined with Christ." Why is this true?
- Have you placed your faith in Jesus? If not, what is holding you back?
- What motivates good works?
- What is something God wants you to do?