

"ALIVE IN CHRIST"

Opening Announcements

Opening Prayer

Q: When you hear the words "Alive In Christ", what comes to mind?

Q: What does the word "In" mean?

Table Time...

READ: Ephesians 2:1-10 "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² 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 disobedience— ³ among 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. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Q: What sticks out to you in these verses?

Q: How does this section "tell the story" of salvation?

Q: According to verse 1-3, what did "sin" DO to us (mankind)?

Q: According to verse 2, what is the influence of the "world" and the "prince of the power of the air"? What does THAT mean?

Q: How familiar/able are you to see/perceive/understand this happening?

Q: What's comforting or encouraging about verse 4-6?

Q: What does verse 6-7 mean practically?

Q: What's do special about verse 8-9?

Q: Why is verse 10 so important?

Q: How is verse 10, related to verses 8-9?

BIG Group Debrief....

READ: Colossians 2:6-15 "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God made alive together with him**, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him."

Q: According to verses 6-7 what are some of the characteristics of being "Alive In Christ"?

Q: According to verse 8, what's the warning for us now AND...how do we see that happening around us? AND...how do we avoid it?

Q: According to verses 9-12, what two Biblical sacraments are mentioned? What's the connection?

Q: According to verse 13-14, what has God done for you?

Q: What does THAT "set you FREE" to do?

A: Titus 2: 11-13 "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,"

Q: How does living out Titus 2:11-13 help with Colossians 2:15 above?

Q: So, what ARE the benefits to being "Alive In Christ"?

