

Once Upon A Time

Ephesians 2:1-10 (esp. 2:5-7)

October 2, 2022
DISCUSSION GUIDE

TALK (get the conversation started; approximately 10 minutes)

- Share something you're thankful for...of course, you can share more than one thing.
- How was your week? How did you see God at work in your life this week?
- How did you do with your application and responses from last week?

THINK (ask a question or two to get your group thinking; approximately 10 minutes)

- What was your **one thing** from the message/Sunday? What one thing have you been thinking about (a new idea, an application, a challenge, a question, or a new thing you learned)?
- We heard about what God did (gave us new life, new position, new standing, and new union) and why He did it (His rich mercy and grace, His generosity, His kindness, and because He's Lord). Which of those actions or reasons resonates most with you? Why?

READ (open scripture and read Ephesians 2:1-10; approximately 3 minutes)

- This is the third week reading, re-reading Ephesians 2:1-10...try to listen with new ears.
- Read the passage aloud, everyone follow along in your copy of Scripture.
- Re-read the same passage, everyone simply listen as the Word is read aloud.

DISCUSS (meditate on and talk about what was just read; approximately 40 minutes; use HEAR)

- **Highlight:** What stands out to you (what you would highlight, underline, circle, make note of...)?
- **Explain:** How would you explain this passage to someone hearing it for the first time? What is the author's intended meaning in the context of the passage?
- **Apply:** What is the principle to live by today? How can this help me? What does this mean today? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? (
- **Respond:** How will I respond to the application in my relationships and/or situations this week? What are you going to do about this?
- What does "God, being rich in mercy" look like? What ways has His mercy been shown in Scripture? ...today?
- Other questions:
 - ✓ What does this passage say God has done?
 - ✓ What does this passage tell us about God? ...about humanity? ...about me?
 - ✓ What does this passage teach us about the Gospel, the message of God providing a rescue plan for sinners through Jesus Christ?
- **Complete this statement: "Based on what we've read and discussed, this week, I will..."**

PRAY (wrap up sharing and taking unhurried time to pray)

- If applicable, are there any updates to previous prayer requests or praises?
- How can we pray for one another? Do your best to limit the sharing to the needs within the group.
- How can we praise with one another?

CONNECTION (use these questions to help with accountability)

- Have you spent time in the Word and prayer this week? If not, what got in the way? If so, share something you learned or something that challenged you?
- Have you share the gospel or your testimony with anyone this week?
- Have you spent quality time with your family this week?
- Men, have you loved your wife well this past week?
- Ladies, have you respected your husband well this week?
- How have you loved the unlovable this week?