

INTRODUCTION

Last Sunday we were in Ephesians 2:1-5, as we considered that “It’s only in understanding the depths of our depravity that we can respond appropriately to the depths of God’s grace.” This week we concentrate more fully on God’s grace, and what that means as we follow Him.

SCRIPTURE

⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:6-10

GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Share with your group a time when you went ALL IN for something.
2. Read Ephesians 2:6-10. What stands out to you most in this passage? Why?
3. Read Romans 6:1-11, Galatians 2:20, and Colossians 2:10-15, and discuss what you think Paul means by *raised us up with Christ*.
4. The verb tense used in *seated us with Him* is called the aorist tense, meaning that it is a past action completed. Do you view yourself as *seated...with Him*?
5. Define *grace* in your own words. Does the fact that He showed you the *incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus* influence your daily life? Why do you think it is sometimes easy to forget or not appreciate His grace?
6. How does it feel to know you are God’s handiwork (or, as Aaron, said, trophies)? How does this affect your view of yourself?
7. According to Ephesians 2:10, what is your new purpose in life? Read Matthew 5:16, 2 Corinthians 9:8, Colossians 1:10, and Hebrews 13:16, and discuss how these passages affirm Ephesians 2:10.

Study Questions for Community Groups

8. How can you make this new purpose an integral part of your life?

APPLICATION

Think about how you can live a life that is irresistible, attractive, and serves as proof that God is still alive and still in the business of making all things new. Pray about and then choose seven *good works* (one a day) that you will do this week that you do not usually do as worship to the One who created you *in Christ Jesus to do good works.*'

Text ALLIN4HIM to 797979 to receive a text a day for the next six days with a reminder of practical ways you can live ALL IN for Him.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. Ephesians 2:1-10 is a beautiful passage detailing what God has done for us. In the previous chapter, (Ephesians 1:3-14), Paul lists some of the blessings received when you accept this *gift of God*. List some of those blessings below (there are LOTS of them!):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2. Would your life look different if you were to be ALL IN with the truths of Ephesians 1? Do you think you would experience more joy, peace, blessing...?
3. Ephesians 2:8-9 emphasizes that salvation is a gift from God – you cannot earn it. Why is this important?
4. Wendy Pope, who works for First5.org, said that, “Nothing we do or fail to do will make us more right or less right with God.” Do you ever find yourself behaving as if salvation is something you earn? If so, what can you do to stop this way of thinking?
5. Knowing that God first went ALL IN for you, even when you were a sinner and turned your back on Him, what changes do you need to make in your life to go ALL IN for Him?