

A STUDY OF EPHESIANS

Vital Signs: LIFE Ephesians 2:1-10

Ok, so not everyone of you will have the death to life story as dramatically told as others. For some it will be a slow and steady journey towards Christ, and for others a dramatic rescue tale of being snatched out of the jaws of death.

"It wasn't so long ago that you were mired in that old stagnant life of sin. You let the world, which doesn't know the first thing about living, tell you how to live. You filled your lungs with polluted unbelief, and then exhaled disobedience. We all did it, all of us doing what we felt like doing, when we felt like doing it, all of us in the same boat." – Eph 2:1-3 (MSG)

1. Open in prayer and begin your time as a group sharing some of your respective stories as seen through the lens of Ephesians 2:1-10.

2. Consider this time, an opportunity for encouragement. Where appropriate – pray for one another.

3. Read Ephesians 1:1-10

4. One of the best known verses of the book of Ephesians is 2:8: "By grace you have been saved, through faith." How might your life be different if God ceased to be gracious to you?

5. According to verses 4-7, what motivated God to save us? How do you respond to these motives as you consider our condition without Christ?

6. What do we learn about God's grace from 2:8-10? Do verses 8&9 contradict verse 10?

7. What good works has God prepared for you to do?

8. What has held you back from partnering with the Holy Spirit in doing them?



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9. Some bonus verses for discussion/application for those of you that got this far :)

Colossians

3:1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

1 Peter 2:9

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

Hebrews

12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Romans

12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.] 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. 9. Some bonus verses for discussion/application for those of you that got this far :)

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