

WHO YOU ARE

a study of ephesians

“YOU ARE A MASTERPIECE”

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INTRODUCTION

This week in Ephesians, the Apostle Paul sets out to remind us all of the great salvation we have received through Christ. These ten verses represent the theological testimony of every Christian who has ever lived. This is our story--and it serves as one of the most profound passages in the entire Bible at explaining the bad news of our sin and spiritual death, the good news of the gospel that has saved us, and the bright future we have as God's masterpiece.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. Describe a time when you chose the wrong direction, whether it was driving, in a relationship or some other situation.
2. In v1-3, what forces lure or compel us to go in the wrong direction spiritually?
3. According to Paul, what characterizes you, me, and every person who has ever gone the wrong direction spiritually?
4. What are characteristics of someone who is spiritually dead? Spiritually alive? On a scale of 1-10, how spiritually alive (or dead) do you feel, personally?
5. In v4-5, what, why and how has God done for us to save us and give us life?
6. What is the BIG IDEA that you think Paul really wants us to understand about this entire passage?
7. God made us alive and raised us up in Christ (vs4-6). What does v7 say God desires to be accomplished by this?
8. According to v8-9, what is the means of our salvation?
9. These verses make it clear: the gospel of Jesus Christ is all about grace. It gives life to the dead. It is God's free, undeserved gift. But people often think they can (or need to) earn their salvation by doing good works. Do you ever feel that you need to earn God's favor? If so, why do you think it's hard to accept his grace as a free gift?
10. According to v10, who are we, and for what did God save us? What are some of those "good works" for which God created YOU? How do you respond to the idea that YOU are God's "masterpiece?" (*also workmanship; handiwork)

COMMIT TO MEMORY

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8

PRAYER CHALLENGE

Share prayer requests and pray for one another. Be sure to thank God for his grace, love and mercy. Pray that God provides you an opportunity to share your gospel story soon...and that you would have the courage to share openly.