



Going Deeper Questions

- Week Four -

These questions cover Ephesians 2:1-10, please read that passage out loud.

1. Let's focus on **Ephesians 2:1-3 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.** What jumps out at you from these verses?

In the sermon we focused on the three enemies that all those who are in Christ face. We see each of them represented in these verses. The enemies are the flesh, the world, and the devil. Do you feel you understand how these three differ from each other? In your own words how would you describe the flesh? The world? The devil?

2. Now let's focus on **Ephesians 2:4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.** What an amazing pair of verses. Last week we discussed the eyes of your heart and we discussed information going from head knowledge to heart knowledge. Have the truths in these verses resonated in your heart? If so, what is that like? If not, how might you allow them to become a reality in your heart.

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3. Now focus on this phrase in verse five **alive with Christ**. Take a moment, think about it; what do you think it means to be alive in Christ?

Now think for a moment about this verse **Romans 13:11** **The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber...** In the sermon this idea was stressed, we need to be alive and awake in Christ. What do you think it means to be alive and awake in Christ? Are you?

4. **Ephesians 2:8** **For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.** This verse contains the timeless truth of the gospel that we cannot save ourselves but that it is by grace through faith that we are saved. Do you feel that you truly understand this?

After understanding that we cannot be saved by our good works but only by God's grace; Paul flips the idea of good works and plainly states that God has work for us to do and that this work has been prepared in advance. Good works simply stated are things that we do for God. This can be volunteering in a church ministry. Prayer walking your neighborhood. Reaching out to a friend who is struggling. Or it can be something much bigger like using your vocation to love people and share about Christ with them. It also could mean going into full time ministry. All these good works are things doing for God's glory. What good works have you been a part of lately that you preformed for God's glory? Did you feel it was effective? How did it affect you spiritually?

Are you involved now with any work that you can plainly say you know God prepared for you in advance?

Dream with me for a moment. What future work for God would you love to be involved in?