

EPHESIANS 2:1–10

Gospel Visual: Follow-up Bible Study

FOCUS

1. What is one of the most meaningful gifts you have been given? Why was it so meaningful?
2. Why do you think people feel like they have to earn God's love? Where do you think that idea comes from?

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

- **Ephesians** is a New Testament letter written by the apostle Paul to believers in the city of Ephesus — a major cultural and religious hub in the ancient world.
- **Paul wrote this letter** to help the church understand who they were in Christ, and how that identity should shape the way they lived together.
- **Many of the original readers** came from backgrounds of idol worship and spiritual darkness, and had experienced firsthand the transformation that comes from faith in Christ.
- **In chapter 2:1–10**, Paul contrasts what life looks like apart from God with what becomes possible through faith in Jesus.

WORDS TO KNOW

- **Trespases** — sins; stepping over a line God has drawn
- **The prince of the power of the air (v. 2)** — Satan
- **Children of wrath (v. 3)** — people under God's judgment because of sin
- **Flesh** — our sinful nature, not just our physical body
- **Mercy** — not receiving the punishment we deserve
- **Grace** — receiving God's kindness that we have not earned and could never repay
- **Seated with Him in the heavenly places (v. 6)** — God already counts you as belonging with Christ, even though you are still living here on earth

STUDY

READ EPHESIANS 2:1–10

SIN & SEPARATION — VERSES 1-3

1. How does Paul describe people who are living in sin and separated from God? Which words stand out to you most and why?
2. How do you see this reality in the world around you? How have you experienced it in your own life?
3. What does this passage reveal about the consequence of sin against a perfect and holy God?

JESUS RESCUES — VERSES 4-9

4. Verse 4 begins with “But God.” How is God described in these verses, and how does that contrast with how we were just described?
5. According to verses 5-8, what does God give to those who place their faith in Him?
6. What does it mean that salvation is by grace through faith and not by works? Why does that matter?

NEW LIFE — VERSE 10

7. What does verse 10 say about people who belong to Christ? What has God made them for, and what stands out to you about the phrase “prepared in advance”?

APPLY

1. Look back at the gospel visual — where do you see the story of this passage reflected in that illustration?
2. At the beginning we asked why people feel like they have to earn God’s love. After reading verses 8 and 9, what would you say to someone who feels that way?
3. Verse 10 says you were created for good works — but those works grow out of a relationship with Jesus, not the other way around. What is one way you can grow deeper with Him this week, and how might that overflow to the people around you?

REFLECT & CONNECT

The gospel is not just a starting point — it is the foundation of everything. Ephesians 2 reminds us that we were not saved because of anything we did or could ever do, but because of who God is and what He chose to do for us in Christ. That changes everything — not just where we spend eternity, but how we live today. You were created on purpose, for a purpose. This week, take one step toward where you want to be. Whether that is trusting Jesus for the first time, returning to Him after a season of distance, or stepping into the good works He created you for — find someone to tell what God has shown you today.