

Sermon Discussion Guide

“Together” Series

Part 1: Experience Grace (Ephesians 2:1–10)

Icebreaker Questions: (*Option #1*): What is your favorite part of spring? (*Option #2*): What’s your most controversial food opinion?

Prayer: Take a few moments at the beginning of your group time to pray for God’s presence and blessing on your discussion. At the end of your gathering, pray for one another and ask God to use your time together to strengthen your faith and make you more like Jesus.

Read: Ephesians 2:1–10

Big Idea: The foundation of our salvation, sanctification, and mission as the Church is the grace of God, achieved through the blood of Jesus Christ, and applied by the Holy Spirit.

Discussion Questions

1. What was the most encouraging, convicting, confusing, or thought-provoking part of the sermon or Scripture reading to you this week, and why?
2. What do we learn about our *need* for grace from Ephesians 2:1–10? Point to specific verses.
 - a. What does it mean to be “dead” in our sins (v. 1)?
 - b. What do you notice about the tenses (past/present/future) in vv. 1–3? Why is this important? How should this impact us?
 - c. How is what you were saved *from* impacting your life, joy, or worship today?
3. What do we learn about the *nature* of grace from Ephesians 2:1–10? (E.g., where it comes from, what it accomplishes, what God’s heart is like when he gives it to us, how it changes us, etc.) Point to specific verses.
 - a. What does it mean to be “made alive in Christ” (v. 5)?
 - b. What does verse 6 mean?
 - c. What is the difference between grace and mercy?
 - d. How do these realities impact your life, joy, or worship?
4. What do we learn about God’s nature, heart, or provisions from Ephesians 2:1–10? Point to specific verses. Which of these aspects of God’s nature, heart, or provisions do you want to be more intentional about remembering in this season of your life, and why?
 - a. How can we reflect God’s character in this passage to others?
5. Where do you see the gospel in today’s passage? How does today’s text and discussion make Jesus/the gospel more precious to you?
6. What is one specific way you would like to apply today’s Scripture readings or small group discussion this next week? Is there one step the Holy Spirit is prompting you to take?

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:1–10 (NIV)

1 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. 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. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 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.