

Ephesians 2:1-10

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Last week we read Paul's account of all of the riches and power given to us by our Father in Heaven through Jesus and the Holy Spirit. This week, Paul reminds us what we were and what we had to deal with before God intervened in our life to give us hope. Do you sometimes feel like you have no hope? Is life getting you down? Do not despair, as we learn in Ephesians, God has done great things for you. Read through the entire second chapter of Ephesians, paying close attention to the first ten verses. Again underline the words "in Christ" whenever they appear.

1. Read Ephesians 2:1-2 again. What was our condition when God "found" us? Why were we **that way**?

In Ephesians 2:2 we are told that we "used to live" in our transgressions and sins. To "live" in sin means that sin is an attitude and a pattern of living. Sin is not so much a specific time that we failed, as it is a pattern and practice of our life.

2. From the first three verses, describe 3 things that sinners follow.

3. Describe people's lives before salvation from the following verses. In fact, the verses describe each of our lives without Christ, so start each with the words, "I was..." and then add the characteristic from the verse provided.

>Verse 1: I was...

>Verse 2: I was...

>Verse 3: I was...

>Verse 5: I was...

>Verse 12: I was...

>Verse 13: I was...

4. What is the difference between mercy and grace? Can you have one without the other?

5. Now describe people's lives after salvation from the following verses. The verses describe each of our lives with Christ, so start each with the words, "I am..." or "I will be..." and then add the characteristic from the verse provided.

>Verse 5: I am...

>Verse 6: I am...

>Verse 7: I will be...

>Verse 8: I am...

>Verse 9: I am...

>Verse 10: I am...

>Verse 13: I am...

>Verse 16: I am...

>Verse 18: I am...

>Verse 19: I am...

>Verse 22: I am...

>As you pray through Ephesians 2 this week. Ask God's Holy Spirit to reveal an area of your life that still has the stench of death & signs of disobedience. Take time to acknowledge in prayer God's redemption of even that part of your life.

>Great works of art fill the museums of the world, but the greatest works of God fill the homes, work places, churches, villages & cities around the globe. Ephesians tells us that we are God's workmanship and as such have been created for a wonderful purpose. Take time this week to pray about what "good works" you sense you have been created for.

Three Wonders In Heaven

John Newton said, "When I get to heaven I shall see three wonders there. The first wonder will be, to see many people there whom I did not expect to see—the second wonder will be, to miss many people whom I did expect to see; and the third and greatest wonder of all, will be to find myself there."