



Understanding Who I Am

# Ephesians

Becoming Who We Are

**But God...**

# Ephesians: 2:4-10



Series – Understanding ..... Becoming  
Big Picture so Far:

Paul & Church in Ephesus

You are .....

I Celebrate and Encourage .....

Praying that You might .....

Clear picture of who we were .....



# Ephesians: 2:4-10



“<sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

# Ephesians: 2:4-10



## 1. God Takes Action

### a) motivated by

- rich in mercy
- great in love
- full of grace

### b) we were dead in sin – made alive in Christ

- hearts of stone – hearts of flesh
- mystery of regeneration



# Ephesians: 2:4-10



c) we were captive – set free in Christ

- vs.2 - spirit not at work in the sons of disobedience
- raised up, seated with Christ
- remember authority & position of 1:19-21
- Col.3:1-3 “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup> For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God”

# Ephesians: 2:4-10



d) we were children of wrath – kindness demonstrated for eternity

- Jesus on God's Judgment - Matt. 5:30, 13:42, 25:46, 8:12
- we were in that place but God now.....
- riches that you cannot measure
- kindness towards us in Christ



# Ephesians: 2:4-10



## 3. Clarity on our Participation

- by Grace – what I could never earn or deserve
- saved – was dead, captive and condemned. Now Christ took my place and gave life, freedom and inheritance.
- through faith – ‘Piper’

# Ephesians: 2:4-10



John Piper...

Choosing to believe, that from now on you trust in your heart that the death of Christ has covered your sin and guaranteed all the promises of God on your behalf.



# Ephesians: 2:4-10



## 3. Clarity on our Participation

- by Grace – what I could never earn or deserve
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- through faith – ‘Piper’
- Rom. 10:9-10 “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved”

# Ephesians: 2:4-10



a) gift of God – must be received

b) posture matters

- humility – repentance and acceptance

- no one can boast – earned or won, gift

3. Clear – there is a Plan

a) crafted by Jesus

- gifting you – Eph 4:7-16

- empowering you – Eph 2:13

- changing you – Rom. 8:29



# Ephesians: 2:4-10



## b) Has a Role for You

- prepared beforehand – knew where to invite you to participate
- light shine – Matt. 5:16
- abound in every good work - 2 Cor. 9:8
- fruitful in every good work – Col 1:10
- Equipped for every good work – 2 Tim 3:17
- Testimony to the Lost – 1 Peter 2:12

# Ephesians: 2:4-10



c) that we should walk in them

- clear – not saved by good works, saved to good works
- cannot accept gift, live as I desire
- James 1:22-26 – hearers and doers
- James 2:14-17 – faith without works dead
- Jesus – if you love me obey my commands



# Ephesians: 2:4-10



## So What?

1. God's Heart Towards us
  - were dead – made alive
  - were captive – set free
  - were condemned – recipients of his kindness
  - respond – worship and adoration

Question – am I living as one for whom this is a reality?

# Ephesians: 2:4-10



## 2. Clarity of Our Participation

- recall the incredible gift, the undeserved grace and respond with thanksgiving.
- Question – have my conversations with God, my attitudes towards him become entitled, arrogant or demanding?



# Ephesians: 2:4-10



## 3. Am I a Participant?

- allowing God to equip and empower me?
- looking for that role prepared for me, and willing to be obedient in that place?
- Participating – adjusting my wants and desires, my life to be a participant in what He desires and has designed?