

Our Way of Life

Wednesday

Read: Ephesians 2:4-7 *God's decision*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *How do we come to life through Christ?*
2. *Reflect on what it might be like to be seated with Christ. What might you see differently?*

Prayer Focus Gracious God, you're always at work to reach our hearts and to offer us life. You've already given us a new identity in you and shown us the vastness of your compassion. Thank you for restoring our lives.

Thursday

Read: Ephesians 2:8-9 *Saved*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What does it mean to be unable to save ourselves on our own?*
2. *Do you ever feel that you must work more or work harder to be worthy of God's love?*

Prayer Focus Loving One, help us to reach out and take your gift that saves us from soul-death. Move us to pass that gift along to others, not so you'll love us more, but to give you our deepest thanks.

Friday

Read: Ephesians 2:10 *Our purpose*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What good works do you feel God has planned for your life?*
2. *What is one practical thing can you do this week in response to God's great love?*

Prayer Focus We commit ourselves to connect with you once more, Holy God, and to remember the example of your grace. Transform us from death to life so we can live in loving connection with others.

Pastor's message: Ephesians 2:1-10

Message Notes:



Small Group Format

Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Do you prefer to plan carefully or do you like to just jump in and get started?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Ephesians 2:1-10**

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)

OUR WAY OF LIFE

November 5, 2023

Monday

Read: Ephesians 2:1-2 *Our troubled ways*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What does it mean to find death in following the ways of this world?*
2. *Reflect on a time when you might have trespassed against God's law. Pray to trust God with the truth.*

Prayer Focus We know that we can turn off of your path and wander around in the world, ignoring you, dismissing you, hurting ourselves and others. We know joy, though, in being able to stand before you and honestly admit our failures, in trust and faith.

Tuesday

Read: Ephesians 2:3 *The consequences*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *How would you describe a child of wrath?*
2. *In what ways do our worldly passions and practices make us "like everyone else?"*

Prayer Focus God of Wisdom, we look around at the suffering and struggle in our world today and we see how we've earned the name, "children of wrath." Help us turn and face you and remember the truth that you love us completely and will help us become people who exist because of love.