

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Ephesians 2:1-10

Lesson 3

Ephesians 1 describes our spiritual possessions in Christ. In chapter 2, Paul turns to describe our spiritual position in Christ. The sinner who trusts God through Jesus Christ is translated from being spiritually dead to spiritually alive. This transaction is accomplished solely because of God's grace and love towards those who call upon Him in faith. What we have in Him is awesome. May you equally appreciate your new place in life, no longer bound by the prince of the power of the air, but seated in the heavenlies with the King of kings.

DAYS ONE and TWO: Read Ephesians 2:1-10

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
 - a. Ephesians 2:1-10 is the first paragraph division in chapter 2. List below the subject(s) covered in this section.

How would you title this section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

God, Jesus, made, were, and grace

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Ephesians 2:1-10. Remember, as you mark the words, *God* and *Jesus*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Them. You do not need to mark every word that refers to them - only those that you feel are significant.

- This portion of Scripture reveals to us many characteristics of God. In these verses, not all of the references to God that you marked speak of His character. From the verses below, record what they reveal about the attributes of our awesome God. We have completed the first one for you.

Verse 4 He is rich in mercy

Verse 4

Verse 7

Verse 7

- What does it mean to you that God is rich and great in mercy, love, kindness and grace?

DAY THREE: Read Ephesians 2:1-6

- These verses in Ephesians 2 have often been referred to as the "Great Before and After" because of how they portray the way we were before we knew God and the wonderful transformation after. Complete the columns below to highlight this great work of the Lord.

What We Were Like	Verse	What God Did	Verse
	1,5		1
	2		4,5
	3		6

- Fill in your own personal chart by sharing your own "Before and After".

I Was	I Am

- According to the following verses, what should our response be to such a marvelous transformation?

Romans 12:1

1 Corinthians 6:20

1 Peter 2:9

DAY FOUR: Reread Ephesians 2:1-6

1. Paul uses the same phrase in both verses 1 and 5 to describe our spiritual position before we came to Christ. How does he describe us?
 - a. What does Colossians 2:13 say about this?
 - b. JFB Commentary described one who is spiritually dead as *a living corpse: without the gracious presence of God's Spirit in the soul, and so unable to think, will, or do that which is holy*. How would you describe someone who is *spiritually dead*?
2. God's remedy to our spiritual deadness is also recorded twice (verses 1 and 5). What has He done?
 - a. Describe the new sensitivity you have to spiritual things now that your spirit has been *made alive*?
3. What are the two influences under which believers once *walked*? verse 2
4. Ephesians 2:3 makes us look pretty evil. But, before you dismiss these statements, look at them again. How does this verse say we conducted ourselves?
 - a. What *desires* did we seek to *fulfill*?
 - 1.) According to Romans 8:7,8 why can't we *please God* if we live like this?
 - b. We still live in bodies of flesh; we still have a mind. In what ways does having your spirit *made alive* change your attitude about the *desires of the flesh and the mind*?
 - 1.) How can we live in a body of flesh without fulfilling its desires? See Galatians 5:16.
5. Ephesians 2:4 begins with a word of contrast, a word that turns everything around. What is it?
 - a. Although we were *dead in our trespasses*, although we *walked according to the course of this world*, although we *walked according to the prince of the power of the air*, Who changed everything?

b. Why did He do it?

1.) What word does Paul use to describe God's love *with which He loved us*?

a.) Define *great* as it is used in this verse.

6. Read verse 5. When did God *make us alive*?

a. What does Romans 5:6,8 say about this?

7. Look again at the phrase in Ephesians 2:5 that begins with the words *made us alive*. What three words follow?

a. List two other things God has done for the believer. verse 6

b. Just as God has made Jesus alive from the dead, raised Him up and seated Him in the heavenly places, so He has done for the believer. Again, God's grace towards us should provoke a response from us. It is not just information for us to know, it is power to be applied. What does Colossians 3:1 exhort us to do?

1.) What do you think this means in a practical sense?

DAY FIVE: Read Ephesians 2:7-10

1. Paul often uses the word *that* as a word of explanation, a reason why God has done what He has done. What reason does Paul present in Ephesians 2:7?

a. How does *making us who were dead alive, raising us up together, and seating us together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus show the exceeding riches of His grace and kindness toward us*?

2. Ephesians 2:8 is one of the most assuring verses in the Bible. What does it say?

a. What is the *gift of God* given to you?

b. By what means have you been saved?

Challenge: Define this *grace*.

c. What response is necessary on our part?

1.) What is saving *faith*?

2.) Read Romans 10:9. What are two important components in expressing saving *faith*?

a.) What is God's promised result?

3. Reading Ephesians 2:8 and 9, what two phrases tell us what we are *not* saved by?

a. What does being saved by *grace* prevent us from doing? (see the last part of verse 9)

1.) According to 1 Corinthians 1:31, what should believers *boast* or *glory* in?

4. What are we called in Ephesians 2:10?

a. Although we are not saved by good *works*, as God's *workmanship*, we have been created for a purpose. What is God's intention for *good works* in the life of the believer?

b. How would you explain this to someone who was struggling with what part doing *good works* has in the life of a believer?

c. What is the difference between what you might have called *good works* before you were a believer and the *good works* you do now?

DAY SIX: Review Ephesians 2.1-10

1. As a believer, God has *made you alive*. Many would abbreviate their testimony by stating, "I once was lost, but now I am found". Using several one-word answers to describe the changes in your life, complete this sentence: I once was dead, but now I am _____, _____, _____, and _____.
2. Summarize the life of a person without Christ.
3. Scan through this lesson and record the responses we are to have because of what God has done for us.
 - a. What does 1 John 5:3 say about God's commandments?
 - 1.) How have you found this to be true?
4. Describe God's *gift of salvation*.
5. Share something from this lesson that has touched your heart.

*But the Lord our God is merciful and forgiving,
even though we have rebelled against him.*

-Daniel 9:9 NLT