

Hands - application

- Could you share the gospel with someone from this passage? Perhaps split into pairs and take turns explaining the gospel to each other.
- Pray for those who were baptised on Sunday (Badger, Serena, Anais, Tetta, Lyn, Emma, Ede, Nicola, and Jim), that they would fight bravely under his banner against sin, the world, and the devil, and continue as Christ's faithful soldiers and servants until the end of their lives.



Further notes

- Alpha Male starts on Wednesday at 19:30 - who could you bring?
- Spear graduation is on Thursday - come along to support!

Spring 2014

10th June

Ephesians 2:1-10

Saved by Grace

Background for leaders

This week we're continuing our series on Ephesians. Paul's letter was to the Christian church at Ephesus, in modern day Turkey.

The opening chapter and a half (from 1:1 - 2:10) is one long expression of praise and prayer at the good news of the Gospel. Paul explains what Christ has done for His people, and what the implications are before going on in the rest of the letter to encourage Christians in their response.

In this week's passage (2:1-10), Paul gives a snapshot summary of the message of the gospel of salvation by grace alone, through faith alone. We have been saved from death in v1-3 (present spiritual death, and eternal physical death) to life in v4-7 (present spiritual life and eternal physical life). This salvation is the free gift of God's grace (v8-9), and results in good works (v10).

Conversation starters

- If you had five minutes to explain the gospel, what would you say?
- Have you shared your faith with anyone recently? How did it go?
- On Sunday we had baptisms at all 3 services. Have you been baptised? What does/did that mean to you?

Head - context and culture

Read Ephesians 2:1-10 — discuss the passage

- On Sunday, Charlie said that the bigger the problem, the better the solution. Do you agree? What's wrong with humanity in v1?
- What does Paul mean when he says without Christ we are "dead"? What can dead people do to improve their situation?
- What are the different negative influences on us in v2-3?
- What's the solution in v4-7?
- What is the logic of v 8-9? What's our contribution to our salvation?
- What are we saved *from* and what are we saved *to*?

Heart - what does this mean for us?

- If you were in Church on Sunday, can you remember any of the illustrations given? Were they helpful?
- Have you got any examples of grace from every day life? How do they help you understand God's character?
- This Sunday there were baptisms at each service. How does baptism tie in with this passage?
Baptism symbolises death and new life (see Col 2:12)
- What does this passage say about the 'now and not yet'?
Past tense of v4-6, but future implication in v7