

LG | Leader

[Ephesians 2:1-10]

WARM-UP (10 mins)

It is likely that everyone present had a very busy day, maybe even a trying day. Let's take a moment to still our minds and go to the Lord in prayer.

- In your personal devotion with the Lord, what has the Lord revealed to you through His word this past week? If not, what is keeping you from the Lord?
- When you reflect back on Sunday's sermon, what impacted you the most? Anything that stirred your affection towards the Lord?

ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text.

1. Read our primary text. Paul paints a pretty grim picture of our collective past's (lives formerly marked by sin). Why does Paul say that we were dead in our trespasses?

Our first parents, Adam and Eve, rejected God's authority, thus creating a chasm between us and God. Being the offspring of Adam and Eve, we too are born into this separation/alienation from God. We were cut off and excluded from the spiritual life given by God.
2. Paul says that in our sin we followed two powerful forces, what/who were they? What was the fruit of our following these forces?

The course of this world and the prince of the power of the air (Satan). Verse 3 says that because we followed these forces, we lived in the passions of our flesh and carried out the desires of the body and the mind (evidenced in Cane and Abel, the Flood, Tower of Babel, etc.).
3. Verse 3 says that we were by nature children of wrath? How is this so?

Since we are all sons and daughters of Adam and Eve, we were born into a fallen state and subject of God's condemnation. God's judgement was hardship and separation from Him (Genesis 3).

[This natural born state of sinfulness is known as the Doctrine of Original Sin.]
4. Verse 5 is one of the most famous passages in the entire Bible. Why do you think that is?

[Example: It is where God puts His rescue plan on display]

5. Verses 5-10 describes God's pursuit of us and our "new birth" in Christ. What does this new life entail?

God loved us even in our trespasses and continues to love those who are dead in their trespasses, drawing all men/women to Himself. This new life in Christ makes us alive and seated with Him in the heavenly places. It also speaks of future immeasurable riches of grace and kindness = our inheritance.

6. How are we saved from our deadness described in verses 1-3? How would you put this in your own words? Think about how we are saved in a chronological sense, what happens (according to this passage)?

[Example: **God's Love** leads to **His Mercy** which leads to **Jesus** who provides the **Gift of Grace** which makes way for **Faith** which enables us to receive this provided **Grace**; and it is that grace that **Saves** us so that we might be **Made Alive**, allowing us to **Walk in Good Works**.]

7. If you could use just a few words to capture the essence of this passage, what would they be?

[Example: God's Justice and God's Mercy]

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.