

March 5, 2016

## Ephesians 2:1-10

For us to have access to Jesus, we have to declare that we are in a state of emergency. Things are worse than we what can handle and we don't have the resources to handle it. We need help. While this is true, like Adam and Eve before us, we still try to fix what is wrong with us. Something deep within us wants to boast and take credit for our part in the solution. We must understand the full gospel. Our works destroyed us. Jesus' work saved us. We are now His workmanship to go do the good works He prepared for us in advance. So, in essence, salvation *is* about works ... it's just not *my* work.

### Questions

1. Read Ephesians 2:1-3. Though you may have a redeemed heart, in what ways do you struggle with living like the rest of the world?
2. Read Ephesians 2:4. Our salvation is based 100% on what God does; we have no true ownership. However, we seem to believe that our version of the Bible says, "But [insert your name]..." In doing so, we try to carry our weight, thinking our role is critical to the process. We never get to rest in the truth that **it is done** because we are too busy performing. In what ways do you try to perform for God (i.e., what does this look like practically in your life)?
3. Which of the following do you most relate to:
  - a mess who knows they are a mess and thus cannot get to God on their own
  - a mess in denial
  - a morally clean person who is self-sufficient and does not recognize the mess within
4. Read Ephesians 2:6. In a spiritual sense, part of our soul has been raised and is seated in the heavenlies with God. For those who have placed their faith in Christ, we have been removed from the penalty of sin (through Christ's sacrifice). We are now being removed from the power of sin (through the Holy Spirit). One day we will be removed from the presence of sin (when we are with Christ). What sin do you long to have removed from your presence?
5. Read Ephesians 2:8-10. We are not saved *by* our good works but we are saved *for* good works. What exactly do these good works look like?