

Reflection and Discussion

Sermon Series **Rooted**
Sermon Title Alive in Christ
Bible Texts Ephesians 1:15-2:10
Date April 14, 2024

CONNECT – Getting to know one another

- Question 1: Do you ever find it difficult to accept a gift? Why?
- Question 2: How do you express your thankfulness to those who have given you a wonderful gift?
- Question 3: Have you ever received a “gift” with strings attached? What were your thoughts about that?

EQUIP – Understanding God’s word

Paul’s prayer for the Christians (1:15-23)

- Question 4: What was Paul’s prayer for the Ephesian believers? (1:15-19)
- Question 5: What is the purpose for us to receive “the Spirit of wisdom and revelation”?
- Question 6: What is the purpose for having “the eyes of your heart enlightened”?
- Question 7: Which of the things Paul prayed for seem most relevant to your current walk with God?
- Question 8: How might Paul’s prayer for them influence your prayers 2,000 years later?
- Question 9: What do you find most encouraging about Jesus Christ from verses 1:19-23?

What we were before Christ saved us (2:1-3)

- Question 10: How does Paul describe a believer’s previous situation prior to having faith in Christ?
- Question 11: In Ephesus, the worship of Artemis was the norm. In fact, their temple to Artemis is now considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Does this change in any way how these verses describe us apart from Christ? Why?

What God has done for us (2:4-7)

- Question 12: Ephesians 2:5 says we are “made alive in Christ.” What does that mean?
- Question 13: What does this passage say is the goal of our salvation? What was been God’s eternal intention?

The gift of God (2:8-10)

Question 14: What is the gift of God in Ephesians 2:8?

Question 15: How does a person receive this gift?

Question 16: Having received God's gift, what are some things God expects of us as believers? Does any of this mean the gift of salvation comes with "strings attached?"

Question 17: Ephesians 2:8 says we have been saved "by grace" and "through faith." As well as you can, describe the relationship between God's grace and our faith regarding the salvation experience.

Question 18: How does it feel to know that you are God's workmanship, created for a purpose? How does it impact the way you view your life and calling?

DISCIPLESHIP – Becoming and doing

Question 19: God is still working out his plan in our lives. What insights does this passage give you into God's developing plan for your life?

Question 20: How can we help others understand that the gift of salvation is free and available to everyone?

Question 21: Though we don't gain salvation because of our works, we learn from these passages that we are created to do good works. Will you seek God's direction, so you find what good works God has prepared for you to do?