

Starting Point: Part 3

Redemption: Ephesians 2:1-10

Self-reliant religion leads to death.

1. All rebellion is essentially a lack of trust in God.
2. Religion is rebellion when we trust ourselves more than we trust God.
3. Religion/rebellion demand that I put my trust in *myself* and puts me at odds with God.

The measurement of self-reliant religion is our _____.

There are 3 negative influences that invite us to follow them:

1. The world
2. The devil
3. The flesh

The key phrase of this passage:

Trusting God's grace leads to life

1. By grace through faith
2. We are raised up to heavenly places

The Measurement of God's grace is _____.

The proof of grace is that God shows his love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

Application:

I was _____ but God saved me by **GRACE** through **FAITH**.

Life Group Questions

This week, before you go to your Life Group:

Review Sunday's teaching and Ephesians 2:1-10. Write down all of your observations, questions and comments. Come up with a one sentence summary of this passage.

Life Group Discussion Questions:

Read Ephesians 2:1-10 together. What jumps out to you about this passage? Share your one sentence summary of the passage and talk about what you think the emphasis is of this passage.

In verse 1 Paul says, "You were dead in your transgressions and sins." How does sin kill? In verses 2-3 Paul mentions three negative influences on our lives, which are later put into the formula of "the world, the flesh and the devil." According to Paul, how did each of these affect our lives as non-Christians?

What does Paul mean when he says we have been "made alive," "raised" and "seated" with Christ (vv. 5-6)? When Paul says that our salvation is not from ourselves (vv. 8-9), is he saying that we play no role in our salvation? Explain.

"Faith" is a word that is so common in the church that it can lose it's meaning for us. Describe what 'faith' means in the most practical terms that you can. Use Hebrews 11 as your guideline.

Do you have a hard time asking for help or being fully dependant on God? How do we express our faith on a daily basis? In what ways is it difficult and in what ways is it easy?

What is the relationship between faith and good works in this passage? How can you bridge your faith/trust in God and your 'works' in your everyday life? Share and pray for each other.