

Ephesians

MADE FOR MORE

EPHESIANS 2:1-22
LESSON TWO

LA MIRADA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
DWELLING RICHLY BIBLE STUDY



Written by
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This study is available to download for free at
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Watch each daily lesson and join the Dwelling Richly community:
www.Facebook.com/LMCCWomen
www.YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond
www.DwellingRichly.Podbean.com
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...Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly...

...Lesson One Review...

1. What do you think life in Ephesus might have been like? In what ways do you think challenges, life issues are the same today as they were for the saints in Ephesus? (pg 12/Q 8)
2. Based on your reading from this passage, how would you answer a friend who asked, "Why were we made?" or "What's our purpose?" (pg 24/Q11)
3. Share your answers... (pg 25/Q1)
4. How would our lives look if we were truly living empowered by the same power that raised Christ from the dead? (pg 28/Q9)
5. If you only had Ephesians chapter one as your reference, how would you describe God? Jesus? the Holy Spirit?
6. Share any additions you have to your Doctrines Chart. Did you learn something new? Did a truth stand out to you in a fresh way?
7. Our theme through Ephesians is "Made for More." What did you learn from Lesson 1 that reminds you that you were "made for more?"
8. Pass around the Prayer Journal. Please feel free to share aloud as you write your prayer/praise in your group journal. If you have a prayer request that is more private, you can share with your group leader or our teaching leader, Jennifer, after the study.

Mark Your Calendars -- Our next study meets...

Monday, October 22, 6:30pm or Tuesday, October 23, 9:30am

Join the weekday online study with Jennifer! Live at 7am on Facebook.com/LMCCWomen or Later any time on YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond or the Dwelling Richly podcast.

...Group Guidelines...

- 📖 God's Word is our standard. We'll use the Bible - not personal opinion, popular teachers, or church tradition - as our guide for everything. We are using the English Standard Version (ESV) Bible for this study.
- ♥ We come from varying faith backgrounds, so please be thoughtful of denominational and religious differences.
- 🚫 Avoid commentaries or study notes in your Bible. Trust God, pray, ask for wisdom then read and answer on your own.
- 👉 We're all learning. Be gracious and patient with yourself and with others. No one has it all figured out.
- ✓ This isn't a personal opinion study. This is a Bible study. So, there are going to be "right" and "wrong" answers. Try your best and have a humble and teachable spirit.
- 🗣️ You don't have to share, but if you did the reading and the study this week, why not chime in? We all benefit from one another's thoughts and questions. I bet you have something great to share! 😊
- 🕒 Didn't finish the study this week? That's ok. Life gets busy. You're here! Yay you! This will be a good week for you to listen and perhaps jot down answers as others share.
- ⏰ Be considerate of your "slice of the pie" Share your thoughts, and allow time for others to do the same.
- 🕒 Watch the time. We'll usually return for teaching time by 7:45pm (evening) or 10:45am (morning) group. So, your leader will wrap up the discussion five minutes before that.

Ephesians Lesson One Review

Listen at DwellingRichly.podbean.com

SUPER-DUPER BLESSED... BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

...Lesson Two - Day One...

...INTRODUCTION TO EPHESIANS CHAPTER TWO...

REMINDER: Do your Bible study with Jennifer! Join the weekday online "Dwelling Richly" study. Live 7am on Facebook at the LMCC Women page. All sessions are recorded and available later on Facebook, YouTube, or the Dwelling Richly podcast.

It's 60AD. You're gathered with a friend and your family in a small house-church on the outskirts of the ancient city of Ephesus. It's sundown and the oil lamps around the room are beginning to cast a warm glow up the walls. Across the room, your beloved grandmother moves slowly, her long shadow moving as she stands and clears her throat. "...Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus, by the will of God..." your grandmother begins speaking and the group quiets down.

You are hearing the letter of a man named Paul being read aloud. You grew up in a family that worshipped Artemis – the fertility goddess whose temple has been the center of your life for the past 20 years. Just a month ago, you heard the name Yeshua HaMashiac (Jesus the Messiah) for the first time, and you and your entire family left their idol worship and began to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. You've had a peace like never before, but you've also had questions.

Now, after hearing the opening of this letter from this famous teacher – a man you've never met but have only heard of his dramatic conversion from a Christian-murdering, Jew to a Christ-following missionary for The Way – you are amazed. Like him, you and your family left their former life behind. Like him, you are being ridiculed, even hated by your friends. Now, these words are ringing in your ears and buzzing joyfully in your heart...

I was chosen?

I'm adopted? I'm a saint...a faithful saint?

I have blessings that have been lavished on me?

A man that I don't even know is praying that the eyes of my heart would be opened to understand all this even more? Wow. Wow!

You can hardly take it all in. Distracted for a moment by your own thoughts you bring yourself back and continue listening to Paul's letter.

Your grandmother, once a leader in the temple for Artemis right in the center of Ephesus, is now reading with more boldness. As her gentle, familiar voice is reading these words, you are feeling the life and power in them. These aren't the chants you are used to hearing. These words are not the pagan songs you are used to hearing. They have joy and truth in them...

"...God put all things under His feet..." – You can picture the enormous stone feet of Artemis and imagine the feet of the one true God in Christ Jesus crushing that idol, setting you free, and filling you "all in all" just like the words your grandmother is reading...

These aren't lifeless words of praise to a man-made goddess...you can feel the difference. You know you have been changed ever since you heard and accepted the good news. You're so proud of your grandparents for risking so much and leading your family in this way. What is next? You listen on and wait for more truth to wash over you...

Then Grandmother pauses, she seems emotional – which isn't unusual for her these days. The joy in her is overflowing all the time either in laughter or tears of happiness and sighs of peace...but she

pauses, breathes deeply and begins the next part of this letter. You can hear the words catch in her throat and you begin to well up with tears as she speaks them, your eyes watery but fixed on her loving face...

"...and you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked..."

Oh, the truth in those words! The tears that have been pooling in your eyes, spill down your warm cheeks. You wipe them away. Grandmother looks up, smiles knowingly at you, and continues...

Welcome to Lesson Two of our study in Ephesians!

I'm excited to share these powerful words with you. I hope you'll continue to read them with anticipation and thankfulness for all the blessings you have received in Christ Jesus and for all that you are about to learn and love.

- 1) Read Ephesians 2:1-22 – pray for wisdom and understanding before you read.
- 2) Complete the "Active Reading" notes on the following pages.
- 3) Write Ephesians 2:10 in the box below. This is our group memory verse, and I've provided space at the opening of each lesson to write that lesson's verse. If another verse also stands out to you, please memorize that too! Hiding God's word in your heart will bring your great peace and blessing.

**"LET THE WORD OF CHRIST
DWELL IN YOU RICHLY"**

COLOSSIANS 3:16

EPHESIANS 2:10

...ACTIVE READING NOTES...

~ Ephesians 2:1-22 ~

Write any notes, thoughts, questions, even drawings, that will help you engage and understand the Scripture. Before you read, pray that God would open the eyes of your heart to see clearly the wonders in His word (Psalm 119:18) and that He would give you wisdom (James 1:5) to grasp and apply what you are reading.

- ✓ Mark your Bible and connect repeated words and phrases within this chapter and chapter one.
- ✓ Consider the following questions to guide your thinking as you read...

Understanding the Bible:

1. What can I learn about God?
2. What can I learn about people?
3. What can I learn about relating to God?
4. What can I learn about relating to others?

Applying the Bible:

1. What does God want me to understand?
 2. What does God want me to believe?
 3. What does God want me to desire?
 4. What does God want me to do?
 5. How will these truths change my mindset, emotions, and behavior today?
-

...ACTIVE READING NOTES...

~ Ephesians 2:1-22 ~

...Lesson Two - Day Two...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

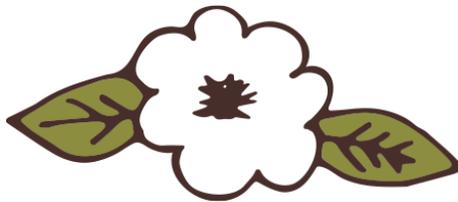
...READ AND WRITE EPHESIANS 2:1-22...

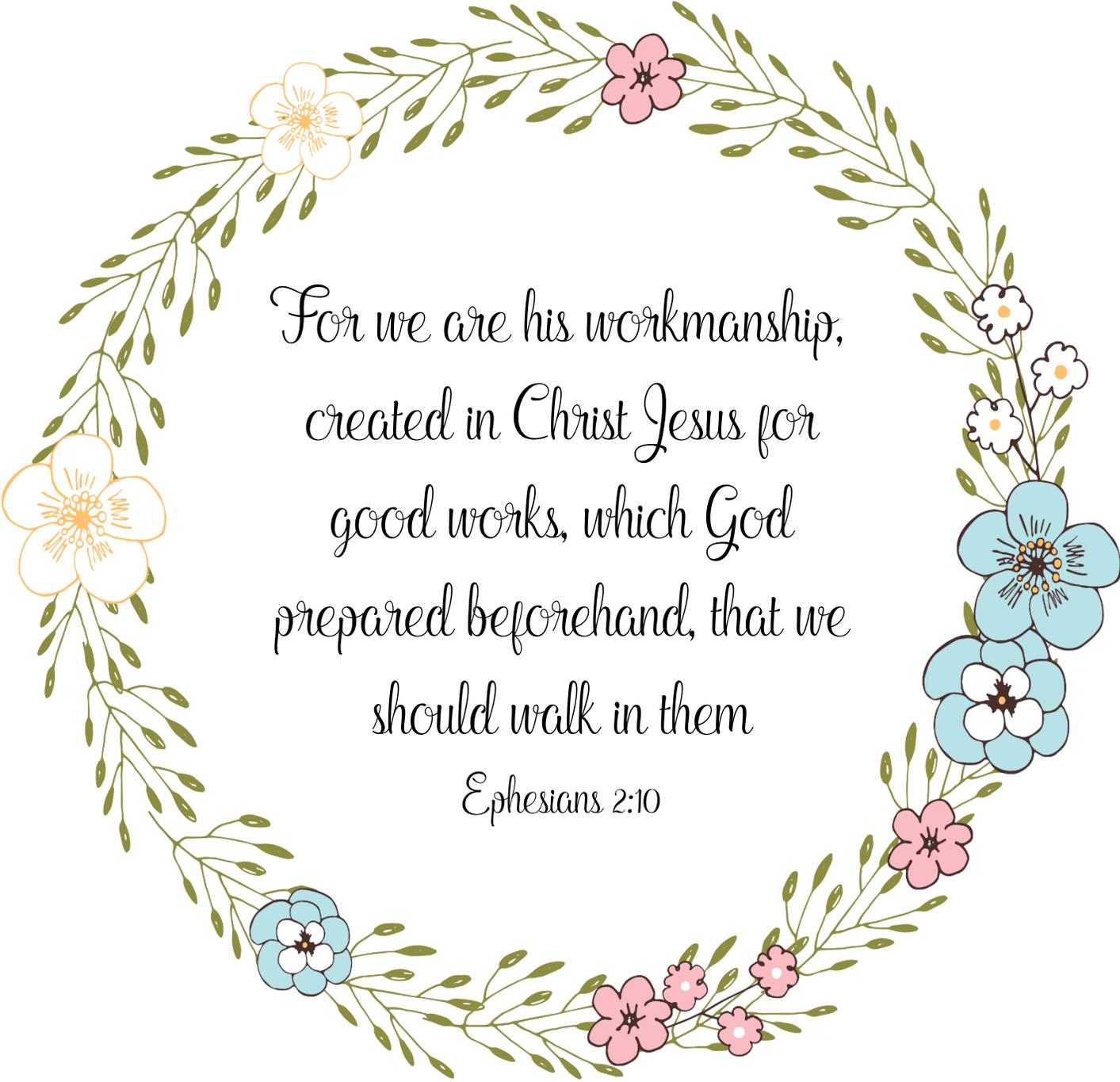


As you read in the introduction, we are reading and writing the entire book of Ephesians over the course of this study. At the end of this lesson packet, I have provided several blank pages for you to “WRITE THE WORD.” Use these or any pages of your own to write each portion of Ephesians. At the end of this study, you’ll have written the entire book!

...CREATE & SHARE THINK AHEAD...

The last day of each lesson in this study is set aside to bring together your thoughts and feelings about what you learned through the passages we studied. Before you begin each lesson, look ahead to the “Create & Share” day so you can be thinking ahead and maybe even completing it as you go.





For we are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for
good works, which God
prepared beforehand, that we
should walk in them

Ephesians 2:10

...Lesson Two - Day Three...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Read [Ephesians 2:1-23](#) then write Ephesians 2:10 (in the box above)
2. Recall the last half of chapter one. Paul mentioned several things for which he had been praying on behalf of the Ephesians:
 - a. That they might... (1:17)
 - b. That they might... (1:18a)
 - c. That they might... (1:18b)
 - d. That they might... (1:19)
3. Paul equated this great power with the working of God that was demonstrated in what ultimate miracle? (1:20-23)

Underline the words "raised" and "dead" in your Bible in verses 20-23.

4. Read through Ephesians chapter two and list all the words and phrases that paint the picture of what someone who is "dead in the trespasses and sins" looks like:

Our condition

Our Actions

(Look for 'ing' words)

Our Nature

Our Position

(relative to Christ)

Our Identity



5. Think about how this resurrection power in 1:20 relates to what happened to those who have “heard the word of truth...and believed in him” (1:13). How is this very power now shown in the believer’s life? (2:1-6)

6. Personalize Ephesians 2:1-3. Rewrite it below changing it from 3rd to 1st person. (Instead of “you were...” write “I was...” etc.).

7. Draw a picture of what the “course of this world” looks like for those who are not “in Christ.”

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

I accepted Jesus as my savior when I was seven years old. I had heard who Jesus was, saw the love of God in the life of my parents, and knew I wanted that love. It was a simple faith, a simple decision, but, the Bible teaches that it changed me from dead to alive. Some people might have made that decision - said “Yes, I want that life” - much later after having lived life and had a lot more experiences under their belt. Maybe they were very aware of their need – how lost and hopeless they were. Maybe instead of tenderly bowing their young head as they sat with their parents they cried out in desperation as a young adult to God to save them. That wasn’t my experience. I said yes early enough in life to have no sense of my own lostness. I didn’t cry out in desperation. I just said, “Yes. I believe.” That’s not to say I wasn’t lost, I just got found before it dawned on me. It’s been nearly 50 years since I made that decision, and in those years I’ve definitely realized how lost I am without Jesus Christ. I know how dead I could be without the power of His resurrection at work in me. I know how different my life could have been, and I’m thankful for that early decision. I know now as I look back at that scene with my parents in our little parsonage back in 1972 that even as sweet of a moment as that was there was an unseen war going on around us. There in that shag carpeted family room a battle waged for my heart. God took and sealed it for Himself that day and, while I may fail Him, I’ll always know His love never left me and never will.



...Lesson Two - Day Four...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Read [Ephesians 2:1-23](#) then write Ephesians 2:10 (in the box above)
2. What is our natural state BEFORE we come to Christ? (2:1)
3. Not only are we dead, but we are in active rebellion against God. Which verses in 2:1-3 explain that? (Hint: note any verbs)
4. Those who are apart from Christ reflect the dominion not of God, not of life, but of what?
5. In contrast to how we were, what did Jesus come to bring? Read John 10:10
6. What does it mean to say that there is a "prince of the power of the air?" Or: a ruler of the authority of the air? Consider also Ephesians 6:12.



7. Before Christ, not only did we walk as “sons of disobedience” we were “children of wrath.” Whose wrath? Read [Ephesians 5:5-6](#)

8. Read [Exodus 34:6-7 and Psalm 32:1-5](#) Underline any reference to “transgression” and “sin” and describe God’s response to both:

9. Paul took the time and the words to list both “trespasses and sins.” So, considering the dictionary definition AND what you understand from Scripture, how would you explain the difference between trespasses and sins?

10. How does God’s description of our true selves differ from what the world tells us about ourselves?

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

I believe the reasons why someone would reject Jesus Christ are simple, and there are really only two reasons: 1) No belief or 2) No need.

Either someone doesn't believe in the truth of the Bible or someone believes it but rejects the message because they do not see that they need it.

What is the truth? That Jesus Christ came to seek and to save the lost. (Luke 19:10)

What is the need? That we are lost and in need of saving.

God made a way for all of us to be saved. Saved from what? The powers of this present darkness. In his resurrection, the message was made clear: "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4). The way of the Christ is narrow and few will choose it, and the way of Satan is broad and many go that way. Be assured, without a Savior, the prince of the power of the air reigns over the sons of disobedience. In Christ we have been saved from the darkness, we are children of Light. Because of God's great mercy, love, and grace we are saved. Thank God!



...Lesson Two - Day Five...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Read [Ephesians 2:1-23](#) then write Ephesians 2:10 (in the box above)
2. Which phrases in 2:1-3 indicate that Paul is talking about both Jews and Gentiles?

3. What word/phrase indicates that he's including himself in this list? _____
4. Are we able to rescue ourselves from this state? Explain using the concepts from 2:1-3

5. Ephesians 2:3 says that we are what? _____ of _____
6. What are the first two words of Ephesians 2:1? _____
What are the first two words of Ephesians 2:4? _____
7. Ephesians 2:4-10, is set up in direct contrast of who we were and who God is. List the attributes and actions of God:

ATTRIBUTES

ACTIONS

8. Read [Romans 8:6-8](#). What does this say about our ability to save ourselves and our need for Christ?
9. Benjamin Franklin said, "God helps those who help themselves." Based on your understanding of God's Word, do you think this is true? Why or why not? Support your response with Scripture.
10. What did God do that we couldn't have done for ourselves? (end of 2:5)
11. How does that look in your life today? Is it easy or hard to see this truth? Share...

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

I don't think it's possible to exaggerate how amazing it is that we were made alive in Christ. Any effort to try to be "religious" or "Christian" which isn't rooted in understanding this truth is a counterfeit Christian life. It is "godliness" without God, "Christianity" without Christ, "spirituality" without the Spirit. And it can never accomplish anything except to turn people away. What Paul has outlined for us here, and this alone, is true Christianity. Anything else is wrong. I know it doesn't always *feel* very alive. But your feelings aren't the reality. The power of God in us is like a farmer going out to sow his seed. The farmer scatters his seed, and then what? Jesus says he goes home and goes to bed -- rests, just relaxes and lets the seed grow, because that is the nature of seed. The farmer knows that if he sows the seed and lets it rest -- it must go through a certain process that takes time; no seed simply falls to the ground and springs up suddenly -- voila! Life!. No, you must allow it to decay, to fall apart, and then out of that comes a new life -- it grows slowly and steadily until finally the whole plant is grown. This is how God works in us and he wants us to understand that the result is certain, and that we can rest patiently, knowing that he is working out his purposes. We have been made alive in Christ! Trust the process! Trust God through it all.



...Lesson Two - Day Six...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Read [Ephesians 2:1-23](#) then write Ephesians 2:10 (in the box above)
2. From Ephesians 2:4-7 answer the following:
What is the quality of God that made us alive in Christ? _____ (v4)
Why did He make us alive in Christ? _____ (v4)
When were we made alive in Christ? _____ (v5)
How have we been saved (made alive in Christ)? _____ (v5)
What is the result of being made alive in Christ? (v6)

Where are we placed because of being made alive in Christ? (v6)

What is the ultimate purpose of being made alive in Christ? (v7)
3. What part do we play in our being made alive in Christ? (2:8)
4. What would we likely do if we did have a part in our salvation? (2:9)

5. Break down Ephesians 2:8 by answering the following:
- How have we been saved? _____
- Through what means have we been saved? _____
- Who is the means of our salvation? _____
- Who is NOT the means of our salvation? _____
- What is our salvation? _____ From whom? _____
6. Is our salvation a result of works we have done? _____ Why? _____
7. No matter what is going on in your life right now that you think defines you, what we learn from Ephesians so far should firmly seal in our heart and mind the truth of what we have and who we are in Christ. Based on what you've learned in chapters one and two so far, what are at least three things that define who you are as a Christian:

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

It didn't have to be this way. God could have wound up the "clock" of human experience and existence in a sense, stood back, and let it go. But he stepped in. Why? Why does God come into our lives? Why does he change the essentials of our experience? Why did He make it possible that we could be "raised us up with Christ and made us sit together with him in heavenly places"? Well, He tells us! His answer is that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. In other words, God's purpose in doing all this is that he might have his own grace -- the glory of his character -- made known for all to see. That through us who love Him would be a beautiful demonstration of the grace and the perfection of God's character. His glory will be seen in us -- especially as it is on display, says Paul, by his kindness toward us. This is what will make it stand out and be so meaningful to other people -- the evidence of the kindness of God toward us. The Enemy is literally Hell-bent on distorting that display. You can feel it because you constantly wrestle in your own head with thoughts of inadequacy, pride, anger, and more. But Christ came and demonstrated God's love in action towards us, "in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us." That is amazing grace. That is the free gift. That is the way it is -- not a standoffish God watching as humanity winds down and out...an active, loving God who stepped in and gave us the gift of faith to receive His grace and to live victoriously in His love.



...Lesson Two - Day Seven...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Read [Ephesians 2:1-23](#) then write Ephesians 2:10 (in the box above)

Thirty-two verses in to this message, Paul gets to a culminating point...a point which we should all be happy to hear: What's my purpose? I was dead. Now I'm alive. I was lost. Now I'm saved, seated, satisfied in Christ because of God's work. What next?

2. Write each of the five phrases from Ephesians 2:10 on the lines provided:

3. Circle the word "workmanship" (masterpiece, handiwork, creation) and from that, draw a line and write "poem" at the end of the line.
4. Draw a wavy line under the word "created" and connect that word to "Christ Jesus" – "Created" is from the Greek word: "κτίζω" (k-tid-zoh) which applies to God making something from nothing ("ex nihilo" Latin.)
5. Why are we created? Highlight "for good works" on the third line above. Draw a line from that phrase to the margin and list "good works" that you know you are called to be doing in Christ Jesus today.

It's Greek to Me

The Greek word for "workmanship" is "ποίημα" (poema). It literally means "something created" – We are the creation of God. And what is a poem? A poem is an author's creative expression of his thoughts and ideas communicated in words with a rhythm and rhyme and flow that creates an image, impression, thought, or feeling in the mind and heart of the reader. You are God's ultimate expression. The only other time in Scripture this word is used is in Romans 1:20 "For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made so they are without excuse."

6. Draw a box around “prepared” and “beforehand” and connect them both. Read Ephesians 1:4 and remember that you were chosen “before the foundation of the world.”
7. Circle “walk” and connect a line – better yet, a little line of footprints! - from it to the margin, then make a note to remind you of what you were BEFORE Christ from Ephesians 2:1-3.
8. Connect the word “walk” in verse 10 with the word “walked” in 2:1 in your Bible
9. Underline the word “them” and connect it to “good works.” This what our life is designed for – good works.

10. Represent the dot below as the moment in time when you were saved. To the left of the dot write a few words to describe yourself according to Ephesians 2:1-3. To the right describe yourself according to Ephesians 2:4-9.



11. On which side of that moment are we able to do “good works?” _____

Why? Consider [Romans 3:27; Titus 3:5](#)

12. Do you have a date for your “dot” above? If you recall the date you were saved, go ahead and write it on the dot! What a wonderful day!

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

My dad used to say that Christians had two bellybuttons. As a child, I'd lift my shirt and check for mine, and he'd laugh and explain again. When the Pharisee Nicodemus snuck away at night to see Jesus, Jesus told him that “unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” This is where my dad got the “two bellybuttons” idea. “You get your first bellybutton when you're born from your mommy,” he'd remind me, “The second one is invisible, and you got that when you were born again in to Jesus' family.” Before we were saved we were “children of wrath.” Now, we are “made alive in Christ” so we can walk “in a manner worthy of the Lord.” Our salvation is not the result of any of our efforts or acts of service we do. It's true and important to remember that, as believers, we are “created in Christ Jesus for good works”—to help and serve others. So, while there is nothing we can do to earn our salvation, God's will is that our salvation will result in being like Him – masterpiece makers. We are saved not merely for our own benefit but to serve Christ and build up the church (Ephesians 4:12). In this way we are most like Christ. Our righteous acts do not produce salvation...not at all! Our good works are the evidence of our salvation (James 1:22; 2:14–26).

In the end, we must recognize that even our righteous acts come as a result of God within us, not of ourselves. On our own, our “righteousness” is simply self-righteousness, and vain, hypocritical religion produces nothing more than “filthy rags.” Instead of counting our good deeds as if we were placing chips on a scale to outweigh our bad, we should toss out the scale, thank God there is no scale, and that Jesus fulfilled all the requirements to be part of God's family. It's now up to us to accept that free gift of grace by placing our faith in Jesus Christ.



...Lesson Two - Day Eight...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Read [Ephesians 2:1-23](#) then write Ephesians 2:10 (in the box above)
2. In order to grasp the full meaning of today's passage we need to understand the special place and plan for God's Chosen People – the Jews. Read [Genesis 12:1-3](#) (ESV) then complete the following promises God made to Abraham:

I will make of you a _____

I will _____ you and [I will] make your _____ so that

You will _____ I will _____ those who _____ you

Him who _____ you I will _____ and

In you _____ the _____ of the _____ will be _____

3. What was the sign of this covenant? [Genesis 17:10-12](#). _____
4. By what "nicknames" does Paul differentiate Jew and Gentile? (This was the sign of the covenant between God and Abraham and is why the Gentiles weren't a part of it.)

5. How does Paul describe the previous state of the Gentile - the "uncircumcision" – in 2:12? List five ways:

6. Read [Romans 9:1-9](#). How does Paul feel? Why?

What belongs by birth to the Israelites (the Jews Paul is talking about)? (Romans 9:4)

Which of these realities above are true now for Gentiles who are in Christ? Highlight or circle the words/phrases you wrote above that apply now to believers. You'll recognize similar wording from Ephesians chapters one and two.

7. How would you respond to someone who accepts the Bible as God's Word, but also says that anyone can be saved from any faith as long as they are a good person or believe in "god" in whatever manner they define god?
8. Compare [Ephesians 2:13-16](#) and [1 Peter 2:9-10](#) and list below how our identity has changed for those who are in Christ Jesus.
9. Jews don't become Gentile, and Gentiles don't become Jew – both become what? (2:15)
10. What happened to the "law of commandments expressed in ordinances?"
11. Ephesians 2:16 reminds us all – Jew and Gentile – that we are both now what in relation to one another and in relation to God? (Hint: starts with "r"!)

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

A man let a newlywed couple stay in his mountain cabin for their honeymoon. It was a crisp winter evening and the couple fresh from their wedding were excited to snuggle into the warm, cozy cabin and begin their new life together. They arrived after a long day and a longer drive and went straight to the bedroom, but the cabin was so cold that they spent their evening together huddled and shivering in thick flannel pajamas, under heavy wool blankets, too tired and too freezing cold to do anything else, and no amount of shivering or blankets could warm them enough. The next morning the host came by to bring them a bottle of champagne and a delicious breakfast and was shocked to find the still shivering couple wrapped in layers of blankets. In the dark they had missed that the cabin windows were open and the heater was not on. Instead of enjoying the blessings of a cozy warm cabin they had spent the night unnecessarily cold and uncomfortable. Like this couple who missed out on the blessing of what would have been warm and wonderful evening, those who reject Christ and rely on their own efforts will never find satisfaction – worse, they will remain children of wrath. When Paul wrote this letter, his prayer was that we would know "the hope, riches, and power" of our life in Christ. As he wrote in Romans, he was devastated at the thought that his fellow Jews were not coming to Christ. They had the "covenants of promise" but they would not receive the blessing of it because they rejected the one who could save them – Jesus. Today, we could be in the same jeopardy. So confident in our own good works, so satisfied in our own efforts, that we do not accept the gift of God. Instead, I pray that you have accepted the gift of salvation and are happily experiencing the joy of life in Christ.



...Lesson Two - Day Nine...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Read [Ephesians 2:1-23](#) then write Ephesians 2:10 (in the box above)
2. Read Ephesians 2:17. To whom did "he" (Jesus) preach?

Who were "far off?" _____ Who were "near?" _____

3. Read [Luke 4:15-22 and 4:43-44](#). What is Jesus doing? And to whom?

How does this relate to Ephesians 2:17?

4. Read John 4:4-42. What is Jesus doing? To whom?
5. Now, consider the Samaritan woman's encounter with Christ as you re-read Ephesians chapter two. Note on the left how Paul talks about how we "once were" and on the right make parallels to her story and her encounter with Christ. There are many parallels in these two passages. List as many as you can see.

Ephesians 2:1-22

John 4:4-42

...BACKGROUND...

When Jesus spoke to a Samaritan – and a woman, no less! – He was exemplifying the very reason He came: that the Good News was for all. Jew first, Gentile and everyone...man and woman, slave and free, rich and poor – everyone. The Samaritans were race of people utterly hated by the Jews. A Samaritan woman would have been even more despised since she was seen by the Jews as having no access to or rights to their God. She was even looked down upon by her own people – coming to the well alone tells us this. Wells were community locations where women would have gathered to chat and socialize. But, she was clearly not wanted or accepted. She was a Samaritan, a woman and an immoral woman at that.

Her story illustrates the truth of Ephesians 2:4-5. While she was still dead in her sins, a child of wrath, far from God, separated, and alienated and a stranger and without God, Jesus was drawing her near. Abolishing the law that labeled her “unclean.”

6. What truth from Ephesians 2:14-19 is Jesus demonstrating in His encounter with the woman at the well? Consider also [Matthew 5:43-48](#)

7. Illustrate Ephesians 2:18 especially as it relates to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and how Jews and Gentiles now can both have peace with one another and God.

8. Complete the following as it relates to Paul’s analogy in Ephesians 2:19-21

We who are in Christ are:

That household was built on:

The cornerstone of the household is:

That whole structure now does what? (v21) _____

9. Peace. Ah, sweet peace. In what ways do you see the true peace of God revealed in our passage today? With God...

With one another...

10. How does knowing that you are a “dwelling place for God by the Spirit” impact how you will walk in the good works that have been prepared for you today? Ephesians 2:22 and 2:10. Consider also 1 Corinthians 6:19.

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

Solomon wisely observed, “There is nothing new under the sun.” And although he wasn’t referring to lack of unity in the culture around him, he could have been. Disunity is as old as Eden. There always has and always will be the battle between the “Us’s” and the “Them’s.” But God brings all things and all people together in Christ. Far off...Christ brings near. Separated? Christ unites. At war? Christ is the peace. Aliens? Citizens of a true Kingdom because of Christ. Where should all this be found? The Church as a whole and us as individual believers. We are the “dwelling place for God by the Spirit.” When you feel anything but peace and unity – go back to God. Circle back the truth that he created us to do “good works” that were created before the foundation of the world. Those good works can only happen when we are united, and not in some hippie-dippie Kum-by-Yah campfire nonsense, but in the resurrection power of Jesus who conquered death and gave us all the hope of the power of true unity.

...Lesson Two - Day Ten...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

EPHESIANS 2:10

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

Read [Ephesians 2:1-23](#) and write 2:10 in your memory box above.

...CREATE & SHARE...

Read [Deuteronomy 32:6, 15](#); [Psalm 100:3](#); [Colossians 3:10](#)

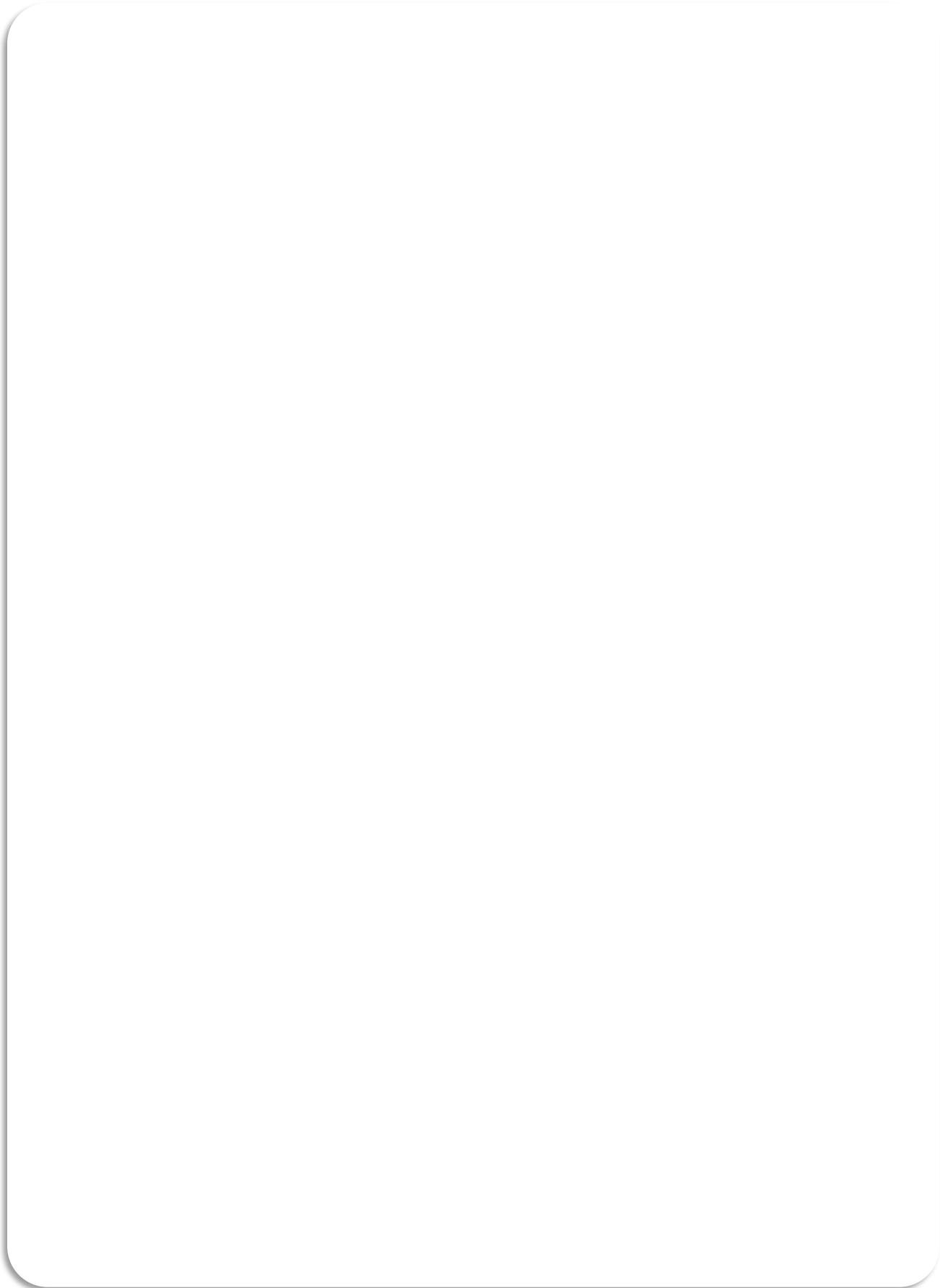
Considering that we are not only his workmanship – His “poems” – but we are his image-bearers, let’s bear His image well and do some creating ourselves!

Think through the verses, your notes and thoughts, how you have felt about these truths and write a poem or a song that shares your heart and mind about what you know and love about God...your relationship with Him...your before and after life...or any of these ideas.

Here’s a tip:

Listen to Ephesians chapter two on your Bible app...close your eyes and just let the words wash over you once again. While you’re hearing the words, let your mind picture the images, colors, and emotions that come to you. Write those down in a poem of some kind...free verse (no rhyming), metered and rhyming, Haiku, any poetic form! Have fun and bring out your colored pens or pencils and add a colorful flair to your masterpiece. Then share it with your group...share it on social media...let’s praise God and reflect His glory and bear his image as masterpieces who are created in Christ Jesus for good works.

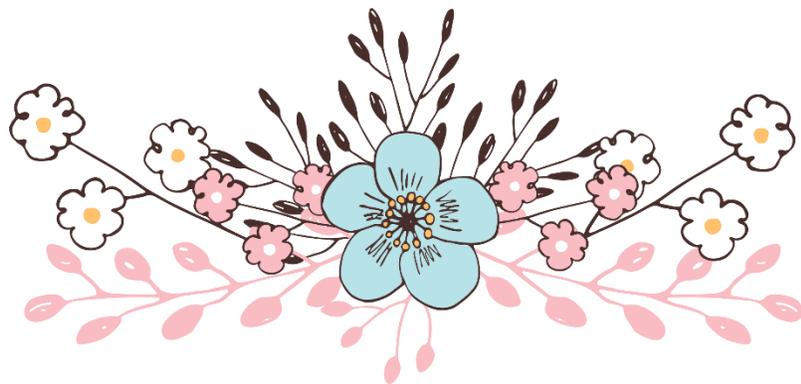
Use the space below to brainstorm some ideas for your poem and then write it out on the following page.



Ephesians



A decorative border with intricate floral and geometric patterns runs vertically along both the left and right sides of the page. The patterns include circular motifs, floral designs, and geometric shapes like triangles and squares, all rendered in black and white. The border frames a central area containing 20 horizontal lines for writing.



Blessed be the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who has blessed us
in Christ with every
spiritual blessing in the
heavenly places.

