

Ephesians 2:8-10 For the week of October 22, 2023

Reading the Text:

- 1. What was the big idea of Ephesians 2:1-7 from last week?
- 2. Is there any new information in 2:8 that we have not heard yet in Chapter 1 through 2:7? That our salvation comes from God? That it is a gift by His grace? That it comes by hearing and believing (faith)? What is the new information, or implication, that Paul shares in v. 9?
- 3. How does the exclusion of boasting apply to our salvation and the good works that God intends should continue from us in v. 10?
- 4. What does Paul mean that we were created "*for good works*"? What are those "good works"? What does it mean to "*walk in them*"?
- 5. How would you restate the big idea of the Ephesians 2:8-10 in your own words?

Living It Out:

- Look back at some of Paul's phrases in chapter 1 and 2: "He chose us", "we have redemption through His blood", "forgiveness of our trespasses", "we have an inheritance", we were "sealed with the Holy Spirit", and He "made us alive". When we read those through the lens of "grace" and the "gift of God", do they bring any emotions? If so, what emotions? How do they get expressed?
- 2. Clearly, Paul wants us to see God's involvement in the process of salvation from beginning to end. What would seeing that in your life do for your attitude, your confidence, your sense of optimism, and your view of the future?
- 3. Would seeing more of God's gracious activity in the process of salvation change the way we view of our "good works" today? If so, how?
- 4. How could we celebrate together the good works we are to be doing in a way that excludes boasting and honors the God who brought us to life in order to do them?

