

## SIN & SALVATION



MEMORY VERSE: "God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God." Ephesians 2:8

### DAY 1 EPHESIANS 2:1-3 — Us Without Jesus

The Apostle Paul wrote a letter to the Christians in Ephesus. In this passage, Paul reminds the people what they were like before they became followers of Christ.

1. How does Paul describe the condition of the Ephesians without Jesus? v. 1  
Describe sin in your own words.
2. How does Paul describe his own actions, and other people's, before following Jesus Christ? vv. 2-3
3. What do you think it means to follow the world?
4. How do you struggle with following the world instead of Jesus?

### DAY 2 EPHESIANS 2:2-3 Satan and Our Sinful Nature

5. According to verse 2, who is the Devil (Satan) and what does he do?
6. How do you see Satan working now? Give examples of how he uses media to influence people today.

7. “So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” James 4:7  
What does James tell us to do to get Satan to flee from us? How do we “humble/submit” ourselves before God?
8. We don’t lose our sin nature once we receive Christ. What do you learn from 1 John 1:8-9?  
1 John 1:8-9 says, “If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.”

### DAY 3    EPHESIANS 2:4-5 — The Grace of God

9. What did God do for us and WHY? vv. 4-5
10. Review the definition of grace. What do you think “It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!” means?
11. John 14:6: “Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. Is there any other way a person can be made alive (saved) apart from Jesus? Why?
12. God sent His Son to save us sinners BEFORE we started following Him. That’s how much He loves us! Do you ever feel like you don’t deserve God’s love? How does this passage encourage you?

### DAY 4    EPHESIANS 2:6-10 — Salvation

13. Read the definition of salvation and verse 8. Whom must our belief/faith be in? Why?  
Why can’t we “take credit” for our salvation?

14. Read verse 9. Saving is all God's idea and all His work. It's God's gift from start finish! Do you think a person can do enough good things to get to heaven? Why?
15. Even though salvation is entirely by the grace of God and "not a reward for the good things we have done," how do our actions and the way we live matter? v. 10
16. "A final word – Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power." Ephesians 6:10  
How can this verse help you in your relationship with Jesus?

## DAY 5 EPHESIANS 2:1-10 — Wrap Up

17. God loves you just the way you are. But He loves you too much to leave you just the way you are! What is God revealing to you through this lesson?
18. Ask God to show you the sin in your life. Then ask the Holy Spirit to help.

### BELIEVE

The Bible tells us that we ALL sin and fall short of the Glory of God. No one is perfect and we all need Jesus. But praise God, He sent His Son to earth to live a sinless life, die on the cross for OUR SINS, and be raised from the dead. Jesus conquered sin and death so that we may have life! And all we have to do is believe! THAT is called amazing grace! What a merciful, loving God! Do you believe?

### PRAY

Prayer if God leads you...

Dear God, I recognize that I am a sinner and I need You. Thank you for the free gift of salvation through your Son Jesus Christ. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. I give my life to you. I accept this amazing grace. Thank you for "raising me from the dead alongside Christ" and for making me "anew in Christ." I want to do all the good things you have planned for me! Amen

## Ephesians 2:1-10 (NLT)

1 Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins.

2 You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. 3 All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God’s anger, just like everyone else.

4 But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, 5 that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!)

6 For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. 7 So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.

8 God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. 10 For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

**Sin:** any action or attitude that falls short of God’s perfect standard; separates us from a holy God. When we sin we show contempt for God. Sin keeps the world from working as God originally intended it to.

**Humility:** a modest view of one’s own importance or seeing ourselves as God sees us; recognizing that all we have and can do comes from God.

**Submit:** to submit to God means surrendering our own will to His; submitting is ongoing with every choice.

**Grace:** God’s free and undeserved love toward sinful humans that never ends. A gift that not only forgets our sins but also makes us whole.

**Salvation:** rescued or delivered from the penalty and power of sin in your life because you believe that Jesus, God’s Son, came to earth and died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sins. He was resurrected to life to save all who trust in Him.