



Questions Around Salvation and Grace

Bottom Line: It is by grace that you have been saved.

Key Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10

A Note To Group Leaders:

***Keep in mind the goal of every meeting is to create meaningful conversation and connection.
Feel free to choose a few questions for discussion and adjust questions as needed.***

The Setup

At some point in life, everyone is afraid of losing something. From losing a purse or wallet to losing a spouse or close relative, separation and loss can create all kinds of fears, doubts and questions. In this study, you will look into Paul's words to the Ephesians to gain a better understanding of a couple of the biggest spiritual fears for mankind - the fear of being distant from God and losing one's salvation.

Thought Starter

What are some items and/or relationships in your life you would be afraid to lose? Why?

Questions For Reflection

Read Ephesians 2:1-3

What does it mean to be "*dead in...transgressions and sins, [to] follow the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air?*" What time in a person's life do these verses describe? Do we do anything to cause this death? Why or why not?

Read Ephesians 2:4-8

How would you define grace?

What does it tell you that Paul calls it a "*gift?*" What does it tell you when Paul writes "*it is by grace you have been saved?*"

In verse 6, what does it mean for your life today that through grace, you [are] "*raised up with Christ and seated with him in the heavenly realms?*" What do you read in verse 7 that tells you why God raises those who believe in Him up?

Given what you just covered around grace, do you think you can lose your "*seat?*" Explain.

Read Ephesians 2:9-10

What are "*works?*" as Paul uses them in verse 9? If in verse 9 we are not saved by works, but still "*created in Christ Jesus to do good works?*" in verse 10, how do grace and works fit together?

Application In Your Life

Reread Ephesians 2:1-10

As you read these verses again, make notes around the three questions below. Feel free to underline or highlight areas in your Bible to help you get the most out of what you are reading.

What do you struggle to understand or embrace?

How do these verses challenge you to become like Christ on a daily basis?

What are you being invited to do tomorrow? This week?

Table Talk

This week, spend one meal together with your spouse or a trusted friend discussing the verses and questions below. Through this time, you will learn how to integrate God's Word into your everyday life and closest relationships.

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand."

John 10:27-29

What are some items and/or relationships in your life you feel you cannot lose and why? When you look at the above verses from John 10, do you believe that Jesus is saying these words about you? If you don't, what might be standing in your way and how can your friend, family, group or church help?

Close your mealtime in prayer, thanking God for His unfailing and unending love and asking for His grace to completely cover your life.

Go A Little Further



STUDY John 1:12-13; 3:3; 3:16 and Acts 13:48 in your quiet time this week.

As you read through these verses story, use the following questions to help guide you:

- In what ways do these passages further your understanding of salvation?
- What questions do you still have? How will you go about answering them?



READ "What's So Amazing About Grace? Visual Edition" by Philip Yancey

This is an innovative visual edition of Yancey's award-winning book. The book is designed to appeal to spiritual seekers and visually oriented readers by taking portions of the original text and illustrating the themes and messages with provocative full-color photography and graphic illustrations. This unique book enables readers to "experience grace" as they interact with the powerfully imaginative format.



READ "Just Walk Across The Room" by Bill Hybels

In this book, Bill Hybels encourages Christians to explore "the power of story" and to learn how to define and tell their own spiritual narratives concisely and effectively. Drawing on fresh perspectives from the author's own experiences, as well as time-tested and practical illustrations, Just Walk Across the Room encourages and equips readers to routinely initiate spiritual conversations with those who don't know Christ.