

How can I Make the Most of My Life? Part I

Read: Ephesians 2:1-10

Main idea: Because of His amazing grace, love, mercy and kindness, God has given us spiritual life and and identity that finds its purpose and power in our Savior, Jesus.

Key Verses: “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” **(2:8-9 ESV)**

Key Principles:

- Apart from Christ, we were spiritually dead and hopeless.
- Not only were we unable to save ourselves, but we were content to live disobedient lives in opposition to God.
- Because of our sin and rebellion, we were doomed to spend life and eternity separated from God and His purpose for our lives.
- When we are joined to Christ through repentance and faith, we are made spiritually alive.
- In God’s generous mercy and grace he has adopted us into His family and seated us with His Son, Jesus Christ.
- Because of this salvation, we are empowered to live and serve by the power of God’s Spirit because we are His workmanship.

Discussion:

1. How does Paul describe our pre-Christian status in 2:1–3? How does this knowledge help us to appreciate our identity in Christ?
2. How do you think a typical unbeliever today would respond to this description of a non-Christian: “dead,” a slave of Satan, dominated by appetites, and destined for wrath?
3. What was the consequence of our pre-Christian status? Why are the words “But God” so sweet?
6. What does this passage teach about our union with Christ? Why is that important for you to remember when you’re looking for your purpose?
7. What is the believer’s future? How should this impact our daily lives?
8. Why should God’s salvation humble us?
10. What is the relationship between grace and works (2:10)? How

Prayer:

- Focus on your identity and success being found in the person and work of Christ.
- Pray:
 - o That God would remind you of who you were before you came to faith in Christ.
 - o That God help you to preach the gospel to yourself daily for hope and power.
 - o Pray for boldness to share the gospel with those God has placed on your heart..

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- I. Remember your position before Christ. 2:1-3**
 - 1. You are dead without him. 2:1
 - 2. You are enslaved without him. 2:2-3

- II. Remember your privileges in Christ. 2:4-7**
 - 1. Jesus gives you life. 2:4-5
 - 2. Jesus sets you free. 2:6-7

- III. Remember your possibilities with Christ. 2:8-10**
 - 1. God desires to work in you. 2:8-9
 - 2. God desires to work through you. 2:10

NEXT WEEK:
How Can I Make the Most of My Life? Part II
Matthew 25:31-46