

A person wearing a dark hooded jacket is seen from behind, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden-orange light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The background consists of rolling hills or mountains, all rendered in soft, out-of-focus tones of orange and yellow. The entire image is framed by a thin black border.

Ephesians

Brought to Life, Brought Together

Community Group Discussion: 01.06 - 02.17

SERIES OVERVIEW

Paul's letter to the Ephesians describes to us God's mysterious plan for the church. We are brought to life and brought together for a purpose - His purpose.

"Church is the core element in the strategy of the Holy Spirit for providing human witness and physical presence to the Jesus-inaugurated kingdom of God in this world." — Eugene Peterson

MAIN TEXT

Ephesians 2:1-10

GETTING STARTED

If someone says they have bad news and good news for you. Which one do you want to hear first? Why?

DIGGING DEEPER

For a quick refresh on what Ephesians 2 is about watch the week two devotional video here, <https://www.redemptionin.com/ephesians>

1. Read Ephesians 2:1. Do you see sin as more of an action or a condition? What does it mean to you to be dead in your sins?
2. Read Ephesians 2:2-3. Satan is always at work to get us to fix our eyes on something other than Jesus. What in your life tempts you to do this? How can you keep your eyes fixed on Jesus?
3. We have an enemy who either tries to make us think too highly of ourselves, so we don't need God, or too lowly of ourselves, so we don't think God can love us. Which of these do you tend toward most often?
4. Read Ephesians 2:3-5. We have a just God who can't ignore sin, but a loving God who was willing to pay for your sins with Jesus life. Have you accepted this truth. Why or why not?

5. Read Ephesians 2:8-10. What did you used to be that God has redeemed? Examples: Bitter, angry, lost, unresponsive. How have you seen God change that in you?

NEXT STEPS

We are God's masterpiece. As the body of Christ we are a living example in a dead world of the kingdom of God on earth. What can you do this week to show that truth to those around you?

Read with us through the book of Ephesians using this daily Bible reading plan (see back page).

Week Two: Brought To Grace

Day 1: Ephesians 2:1-7

Made alive

Day 2: Ephesians 2:8-10

Saved by grace alone

Day 3: Ephesians 2:11-13

United with Christ

Day 4: Ephesians 2:14-18

Christ brought peace through the cross

Day 5: Ephesians 2:19-22

Members of God's family