

Because of grace, we get to do the best.

The original design for humanity: Genesis 02:15

God knows what is best and He has given us the best gift possible: Grace!

“As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do”

Ephesians 02:01-10, NIV

“Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’”

Matthew 14:29-30, NIV

Paul’s Task with the Ephesians:

Bring unity to a broken group of people.

The church has a large task to show the reality of Christ to a broken world. Paul was passionate about this.

Dead is a Four-Letter Word

Ephesians 02:01

Paul rarely, if ever, pulls any punches. He calls it as he sees it.



Truth about Sin: It Kills!

We can't treat sin with "kid gloves"

Sin always costs us more than we realize. *What has it cost you lately?*

A Snickers? Really?

We try to conquer our cravings in a variety of ways: *what are some cravings you have that have been harmful?*

Ephesians 02:03



Instead of drawing us closer to God, these cravings take us further from Him.

More than the A-Team

Ephesians 02:03

Stating the obvious: being an object of wrath is not good.

We need rescued.

“All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature **objects of wrath**”

A True Grace Period

Would anyone ever thought of grace?

Ephesians 02:05-08

Grace opens up the life we were meant to live.



Grace is not what we expected, nor deserved.

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Matthew 14:29-30, NIV

Grace is now.

