

Grace Groups Homework
"A Work in Progress"

Ephesians 2:8–10

25 October 2020

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Share your testimony of how God brought you from spiritual death to spiritual life.

INTO THE BIBLE

2. How do you understand the scriptural teaching of the depravity of man? Consult the following texts to help you:

Ephesians 2:1–3—And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

Romans 3:9–18—What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." "Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive." "The venom of asps is under their lips." "Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness." "Their feet are swift to shed blood; in their paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace they have not known." "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

WORLDVIEW

3. Discuss the concept of the church as a "covenant community." Is a church covenant justified in the context of church membership? Why, or why not?

GOING DEEPER

4. "Mercy and grace are fraternal twins." Discuss the difference between these concepts (Ephesians 2:4-9).

5. If we gave due consideration to the reality that we are God's workmanship, what practical results would result?

6. In what ways is BBC diverse? Where do we need to improve in displaying our unity amid our diversity what are you able to do to assist in this?

7. Read the preamble of our covenant: "By God's grace, we are gathered as those who have repented and believed in the Lord Jesus Christ. We have given ourselves to him and affirmed one another as citizens of his kingdom through baptism and the Lord's Supper. Relying on his gracious aid, we do now solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with each other."

How does an appreciation of Ephesians 2:1–22 help us to live this out?

8. BBC is a work in progress. Be honest, what do you need to do to help us to make progress?

How does this understanding contribute to healthy relationships with one another in the church?