







Introduction

-  Do you know someone who has been adopted? What responsibilities do adoptive parents take on in this process?
-  How does this process help us know more about the way God loves His children?


1. Sin and Death (Eph. 2:1-3)

-  What does it mean to be “dead in your trespasses and sins” (v. 1)? What does verse 3 say about the nature of those who are in this state?

-  Application: Why is it important that we understand the sinful condition of man before we attempt to appreciate the mercy and love of God in Christ Jesus?

2. Mercy and Love (Eph. 2:4-7)

-  How has God displayed mercy to His people through Jesus?

-  Application: How does it make you feel to know that your salvation had to be earned but Christ earned it on your behalf because you are unable to do so?

3. Grace and Faith (Eph. 2:8)

-  What is grace? What is faith? How did God show His grace toward us in Christ?



Application: Where do you tend to look toward your own spiritual work (faith, baptism, church attendance, etc.) as the root of your salvation instead of to Christ?

Conclusion



How might it shape you to meditate on the fact that God now feels no wrath whatsoever toward you even when you sin because Christ has already born that wrath? How would this make you a more joyful, thankful, loving person? Why?



How should the grace that Christ has shown us compel us to love others within the church and show love toward them?

Daily Readings

- Monday - Ephesians 2:1-8
- Tuesday - John 3:16
- Wednesday - Zephaniah 3:17
- Thursday - 1 John 4:16
- Friday - 1 John 4:19
- Saturday - Psalm 86:15

Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"

All have sinned: Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8

There is a penalty for sin: Romans 6:23 & John 3:18

You cannot save yourself: Titus 3:5 & James 2:10

Salvation has been provided: Ephesians 2:8-9, John 3:16, & John 14:6

The conditions are simple: *Repent* - Luke 13:3, *Confess* - 1 John 1:9 & Romans 10:9, *Believe* - Acts 16:31

Now is the time for a decision: Joshua 24:15 & 2 Corinthians 6:2

Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians. Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).