

Title these three incredible sections:

Vs. 1-3

Vs. 4-9

Vs. 10

List some of the many beautiful ways this passage displays God's love, and grace:

GOD'S LOVE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

"We were dead . . . but God . . . now we"

New Life and Purpose from God—from Ephesians 2:1-10

All those zombie shows . . . dead people walking around, harming, defiling. What's not to love? What if instead of trying to re-kill the poor creatures, you revived them? Forget the fatal headshot (is that how it works? Yuk!), give them a life, and a new, holier reason to live.

It turns out that a *Day of the Dead* sequel has been written!

Ephesian 2:1-10 is an amazing script-ure of love-borne life from/for the dead. It portrays how God has mercifully provided spiritual life to all those who are in Christ. He hunted down the dead, defiled and disobedient (us!), to give us life and purpose; such grace, love and kindness. We need to get to know this God! Read this hope-filled prequel for yourself:

"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 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. 3 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.

4 "But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 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.

8 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (**Ephesians 2:1-10—NIV**)



A Discipleship Tool of Christ Community Fellowship
Kerry S. Doyal—Pastor

Get to Know God! He is Full of Love, Life for Us

Prior to this passage, Paul prays in Ephesians 1:15-22 about our deep need to know God more and more. After stressing that, what is the first thing Paul teaches us about God? **That God loves us**, even though we were outsiders, dead, sinners, and disobedient. Out of mercy and love, God provided life, acceptance, salvation, security, and purpose (2:1-10).

We are no longer “Dead Men Walking,” following the world, the devil, and our sinful pleasures. Because of the God of grace, we are now alive. We live among the spiritually dead, witnessing and walking in good works. Using the text as our outline, and an excuse to make us read it again, here is the passage in the ESV, broken into three sections:

2:1 “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins

2 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
— 3 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.

4 But God, being rich in mercy,

because of the great love with which he loved us,
5 even when we were dead in our trespasses,
made us alive together with Christ
—by grace you have been saved—

6 and raised us up with him

and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

7 so that in the coming ages he might show
the immeasurable riches of his grace
in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith.

And this is not your own doing;

it is the gift of God,

9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

10 For we are his workmanship,

created in Christ Jesus for good works,

which God prepared beforehand,

that we should walk in them.” (ESV)

- **We were . . .** circle all the past, ugly truths about us (vs. 1-3)
- **But God!** Circle what God has done and why (vs. 4-9)
- **He worked on us** so that we . . . (vs. 7, 10)

