

RENEWED

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS

EPHESIANS 2:5-10

"GOD'S WORKMANSHIP"

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

SUMMARY

In this sermon, Pastor Jeff explored what it means to be God's workmanship—that is, we are made by God and saved by God to be used by God. When we understand this, we see that God's work for you leads to God's work through you.

The text is clear: We are saved by grace, created for good works, and crafted by the loving hand of a divine Artist. Jeff emphasized the radical change that takes place when we move from death to life through Jesus Christ. God's grace doesn't just rescue us from sin; it awakens us to purpose. We are like a neglected patch of land transformed into a flourishing garden; our lives become fruitful when God steps in.

Pastor Jeff helped us to see that we, without God's initiating grace, are like barren land that merely "existed" until God's sacrifice and intentional effort transformed it into something beautiful. He clears, tills, builds, and repurposes what once was unproductive into something life-giving and useful. God's grace is the change agent; He moves toward us while we are still dead in sin, and our faith is our awakened response to his beauty and goodness. But to pursue this purpose, we must see that it is not our effort that saves us, but by His finished work on the cross that frees us to live lives of purpose.

But this grace is not just for the sake of salvation; it leads somewhere; it continues in transformation. We were created in Christ Jesus for good works. God doesn't just erase our past; He writes a new future. He prepares good works in advance and invites us to walk in them. We get the privilege of being His masterpieces. We are not random accidents or background extras in the story of the world — handcrafted with dignity, intention, and eternal purpose.

Practically, we must see that our job as sons and daughters of the King is not only about understanding grace but also about stepping into the abundant and purpose-filled life that God's grace made possible. God's beauty, power, and character are displayed in and through us when we live that purpose. Why? Because God's work for you leads to God's work through you.

Together, let's unpack this text and apply it to our lives.

DISCUSSION

Expand Our Awareness

- When you think of the phrase “God’s workmanship,” what images or feelings come to mind?
- In what ways do people (including ourselves) often write smaller stories for their lives than God intends?



This document can be used for either personal or group reflection.

Group facilitator: Please feel empowered to use only the questions that are helpful for the context of your group.

Extract the Truth

Read the text: Ephesians 2:5-10

- What jumps out to you from the text?

The word “workmanship” can also be translated as “masterpiece.”

- What does God want us to understand about his relationship to us?
- What does it mean that God “prepared” good works for us beforehand, and how should we pursue them?
- How would you explain the difference between working for salvation and working from salvation?
- Why do we as people struggle to grasp this Gospel truth?

Experience Transformation

- In what ways are you tempted to either **strive** for God's acceptance or **sit back** and avoid engaging your purpose?
- How is that impacting your sense of calling in God's kingdom- making areas of your life “unproductive” or “underutilized”?
- What are some “good works” God might be calling you to walk in right now?
- What is one step you can take this week to live that out?
- How can we help each other “work from salvation,” not “for”?

Pray

PREPARE FOR
NEXT WEEK:

Ephesians 2:11-22