

SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP

BECOMING WHO YOU ARE

August 29-4 | Becoming Who You Are Study: Ephesians 2:1-10

While anyone can take time to answer these questions individually, these questions are best discussed in a group! Not in a group yet? We want you in one! Head over to southeastchristian.org to join a group in person or online, wherever you are—today!

The pain in our world reminds us that things aren't as God intended them to be. The pain in our hearts is a reminder that the same thing can be said about each of us. In the Gospel, we find the Good News of a Great Physician who can diagnose that pain and bring us back to life.

Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What stands out to you in these verses? If you had to explain this passage to someone, what would you say it's about?

Ben Stuart reminded us that pain often pushes us toward a physician. What are some of the "pain points" in our world today? What are some of the symptoms we see that remind us this world isn't as it should be? What are some of the symptoms we see that remind us that we're not what we should be? How does the Gospel show us the remedy for these pains?

"You were dead..." Why do you think Paul state this so harshly? What does this show us about our condition before we met Christ? How does the "bad news" help us appreciate the "good news" even more?

We tend to view the problems in our world as either societal (the fault of culture), spiritual (the power of evil), or personal (the choices of individuals). Which of these do you tend to blame the most when you see pain and suffering? Why? In what ways does the Gospel challenge each of these areas?

"The Gospel is not a set of rules to make bad people good. The Gospel is about how God takes dead people and makes them alive." Does this change your perception of what the Gospel is about? Why or why not? Do you think most people think of the Gospel in these terms?

"But God..." In a sense, those two words serve as a summary of the Gospel. We were dead, but God changed the trajectory of our stories. How have you seen that in your own life? What's your "**You were dead...but God made you alive**" story?

How does it make you feel to know that you are "His workmanship" (v. 10)? In what ways does it encourage you? In what ways does it inspire humility in you?

We were created "to do good works, which God prepared for us in advance to do" (v. 10). How does this motivate you to keep your eyes open for those opportunities for good works? Who is one person you need to be a "conduit of God's grace" for this week?