



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis
May 6, 2012
Life – there's an app for that!

desert breeze community church

Ephesians 2:1-10 **"Alive"**

This is one of the richest texts in the Bible on what it means to be a Christian.

Thesis: You were dead but God made you ALIVE!

(V5) by grace you have been saved (v7) the immeasurable riches of His grace (v8) by grace you have been saved

Why Do We Need To Be Made Alive? Vv1-3

- Because outside of God we are spiritually dead. (v1)
Col2:13; Rev3:1; Luke15:32
- Enslaved to (v2) Society, Satan & (v3) sinful self (Nature). Rom6:15-23; John8:34-38
- The human heart is profoundly self-centered. (V3)
passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and mind Eph4:22; Phil2:3-4

What Does It Mean To Be Made Alive? Vv8-10

- It is a gift from God. (vv5, 8) John3:16; 2Cor8:9
- Through Faith in Christ. (V8) Rom5:1; Heb11:1,6; John 6:35; James2:26
- Leading to a life that is... (v9) Gal6:14; Jer9:23-24; 1Cor.4:7
 - ☑ Life Liberating: Contentment versus competition
 - ☑ Soul Satisfying: Gratitude versus entitlement
 - ☑ Heart Healing: Forgiveness versus bitterness
 - ☑ Relationship Reconciling: Respect versus disdain (contempt)
 - ☑ God Glorifying: God absorbed versus Self absorbed

How Are We Made Alive? Vv4-7

"The essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting Himself for man."
John Stott

- Sin is me substituting myself for God. (Vv1-3) Rom3:23
- Salvation is God substituting Himself for me. (vv6-7)
2Cor5:21; 1Jn 2:2
- Nothing will take you out of your self-centeredness like having your heart smitten by the Beauty and Glory of Jesus' unselfishness on the cross for you. (V10)
Gal6:14; Col3:1-4



Growing

May 6, 2012

desert breeze community church

- 1) This is one of the richest texts in the Bible on what it means to be a Christian. Do you think most people who reject Christianity are really rejecting Christianity or their false idea of it? Explain. How would you describe someone who has been made alive in Christ (Eph2:5)?
- 2) Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What stands out to you from this text? Why do we need to be made alive (vv1-3)? What does it mean that we are dead in our sins (v1)? What three things are we enslaved to (vv2-3)? What does it mean that the human heart is profoundly self-centered (V3 passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and mind; Eph4:22; Phil2:3-4)?
- 3) Our fundamental problem of self-centeredness can make someone a very bad person or a very good person. Explain. What does it mean to be made alive in Christ (vv8-10)? What does it mean that becoming a Christian is based on grace (vv5, 8; Jn3:16; 2Cor8:9)? How is that (grace) different from every other major cult & religion in our world today?
- 4) What does it mean to have faith in Jesus (vv8-9; Rom5:1; Heb11:1, 6; John 6:35; James2:26)? What is boasting and why does Paul say that the great thing about the Christian life is that it ends boasting (Gal6:14; Jer9:23-24; 1Cor.4:7)? Review the five statements of what it means to be alive because there is no more boasting. Which one(s) are particularly most significant to you?
- 5) How are we made alive (vv4-7)? What is sin & salvation in terms of substitution? How does Jesus' unselfishness on the cross for us take us out of our self-centeredness (V10; Gal6:14; Col3:1-4)? Pray.