FINDING MORE PURPOSE IN LIFE

So Much More – Part 2 Ephesians 2:1-10 May 12, 2019

1. We were so much worse off than we realized.

Once you were dead in your disobedience and your many sins. You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. — Eph. 2:1-3 NLT

2. Our salvation is totally about God's good works and not about ours.

But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that <u>even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead</u>. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. So <u>God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness</u> toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus. So <u>God saved you by his grace when you believed</u>. <u>And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God</u>. <u>Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done</u>, so none of us can boast about it. – Eph. 2:4-9 NLT

3. God considers our lives to be His greatest masterpieces.

For we are God's masterpiece. - Eph. 2:10a NLT

So our faces are not covered. They show the bright glory of the Lord, as the Lord's Spirit makes us more and more like our glorious Lord. – 2 Cor. 3:18 CEV

4. We are made to <u>make a difference!</u>

In Christ Jesus, God made us new people <u>so that we would spend our lives doing the good</u> <u>things he had already planned for us to do.</u> – Eph. 2:10b ERV

But Jesus replied, "My Father is always working, and so am I.... I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing." – John 5:17, 19-20 NLT