

Reflection Questions

Starting Point // Grace

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

Message Recap

We live in a world that rewards performance. It's ingrained in us from an early age. Tests, sports, education, manners; almost everything. And this performance-based mindset affects our view of and relationship to God. We can believe we must perform to certain standards to be in right relationship with God. We *feel* that when we do the right thing, God turns his chair toward us. We *feel* that when we do the wrong thing, He turns His is back on us. As such, we begin creating religious performance-based rules for ourselves and *then live by them*, in bondage. But Jesus didn't come to start a religion. He came to restore a relationship.

Main Point

We are saved by grace through faith alone.

Questions for Reflection

As always, if you have not yet listened to the sermon, please take time to help you answer the following questions.

1. What has characterized your exposure to or experience with Christians and the Church? Why do you think that is?
2. How does this influence or affect your view of God?
3. Is the idea of a relationship with God absent of performance a new idea to you? Explain.
4. What does the word grace mean to you? And if you were to explain the grace of God to someone else, how would you do that?
5. **Read the Ephesians 2:8-9 (above).**
 - a. What are we saved by?
 - b. Who gives us our salvation?
 - c. Can we perform our way to salvation?
 - d. If you are truly saved by grace through faith alone, what would change in you or how you relate to God?
6. Have you fully accepted the fact that you are fully loved and saved by God through faith alone and not by your performance? If not, what is stopping you?

Yearly Bible Plan



John
12-13



John
14-16



John
17-19



John
20-21



Acts
1-3



Acts
4-6



Acts
7-8