

# For Further Study:

“Knowledge of the Holy” by AW Tozer

“Desiring God” by John Piper

“Abba’s Child and Ragamuffin Gospel” by Brennan Manning

“Not the Way it’s Supposed to Be” by Cornelius Plantinga

The biblical teaching on “depravity”: (Gen. 3; 6:5, Ps 14:2, 3; Jer. 17:9, Rom 3:23; 6:23; 8:7, 8)

# Small Group Questions:

1. Why is understanding the fallenness of man essential to understanding the gospel?
2. What does spiritually dead mean? How can a good God be wrathful?
3. What would you say to someone who called the sacrifice of Jesus “divine child abuse?” (see John 10:18)
4. What does Paul mean that we are raised, and seated with Christ in the Heavenly realms? Is this a future hope or a present reality?
5. What does it mean to be God’s “workmanship” in verse 10? What are you prepared to do?

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## Before and After

Ephesians 2:1-10 (NIV)

### 1. Why do we need saving? (1-3)

- a. We are spiritually dead
- b. We were following a rebel
- c. We were under God’s wrath

### 2. Why did God chose to save us? (4-5)

- a. Because of His great love for us
- b. Because He is rich in mercy

### 3. How did God save us? (6)

- a. He gave his son as a sacrifice
- b. He raised us up with Christ

### 4. What did God save us for? (7-10)

- a. To show the fullness of His glory in Christ
- b. To show the fullness of His glory in us

*“If I want to fully experience the love of Jesus, I must receive one of his most important gifts he sends me – His teaching. I must invite Jesus to be the personal Teacher of my life. I must trust that he is right – about everything. And that therefore where I disagree with him I must either be wrong or not yet understand what it was he was saying. I must allow Jesus to teach me how to live.”*

- John Ortberg