



Saved to Serve Not to Sit

By Jeff Bedwell on July 14, 2021

TODAY'S READING: Ephesians 2

This chapter celebrates our new life in Jesus Christ as we are saved by God's grace through faith. You could outline the chapter this way:

- Our Old Condition: Dead in Our Trespasses (vv. 1-3)
- Our New Condition: Alive in Christ Jesus (vv. 4-10)
- Our New Relationships: Jews and Gentiles Are Reconciled (vv. 11-22)

I invite you to focus in on verse 10, *"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."* The Greek word translated *workmanship* is *poiema*. We get our English word, *poem*, from this word. It reminds us that God is not finished with us when we are initially saved. God continues to do a work in us and through us for His glory, our good and the blessing of others. God continues to write His story, His poem, in and through our lives.

To zoom in a little closer, we discover God has "good works" prepared for us that we should walk in. We are not saved **by** our good works, but we are saved **for** good works. There are good works God wants to do through us to impact the lives of others. As has been said, "We are saved to serve, not to sit!"

Our roles of service in God's kingdom vary from person to person. Some will have a "higher profile" than others, but all have great value as they are uniquely assigned by our wise and loving Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Our roles may vary at different seasons of our lives. Opportunities to serve may come into our lives that we never imagined before. God has a role for each of us to play in furthering His kingdom work in the world.

How are you serving God by serving others? Jesus said, *"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me"* (Matthew 25:40, ESV). Would you pray and ask God what He wants to continue to do in you and through you? Do not tell God what you cannot do, just tell Him that you are available to serve Him in any way He desires. He knows exactly where to place us for maximum fulfillment and fruitfulness in His kingdom!

PRAYER: Father, thank You for saving me by Your amazing grace and mercy! As I live out my

new life in Jesus Christ, guide me into the good works You have prepared for me. Help me honor You and bless others as I serve in the love and power You provide.

TOMORROW'S READING: Ephesians 3

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