



The church is saved by grace.



Last week, we learned that we are spiritually dead, helpless and hopeless, stuck in sin and rebellion against God. But this is not the end of our story! Today's verses begin, "But God..." - God comes to help us! Why does He do it?

1) Find two words repeated in verse 4-7.

He helps us because He _____ us with a _____.

He helps us because He is _____ in mercy and grace.

* Mercy = not getting a punishment that you deserve

Because we were spiritually dead, what did we deserve? _____ (see Romans 6:23).

Have you ever been given mercy, or not given a punishment that you deserve? How did you feel? What did you do in response? _____

* Grace = getting something good that you do not deserve

What does God give us in this passage? a) dead _____ (verse 5); b) _____ with Christ (verse 6); c) _____ with Christ in the heavenly places (verse 6)

Wow! We have new resurrected life, just like Jesus (see Ephesians 1:20)

Have you ever been given grace, something good you didn't deserve or earn? How did you feel? What did you do in response? _____

2) Did we deserve or earn this new life by being good, obeying the 10 commandments, reading the Bible or being nice to a brother or sister? _____. Paul emphasizes this 3 times in verse 8. Find it in your Bible and underline them.

3) What is this new resurrected life like?

Say: "Because I've been saved from death and raised up like Jesus, I am no longer under the power of the world or Satan or my own sin.

I am free to live as God made me, I am his _____, created in Christ Jesus for _____, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (verse 10). What will you do for Him today, in response to his saving mercy and grace? _____

"But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together in Christ -- by grace you have been saved." Ephesians 2:4-5

