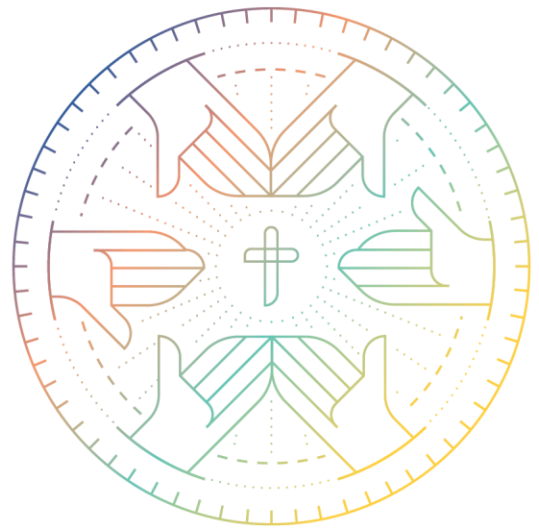


# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



## MEETING AGENDA

### WELCOME (10 MINUTES)

One of the main themes we find in Ephesians 2:1-10 is grace. Grace is defined as unmerited favor. It is a gift that is free for the receiver but comes at a cost for the giver. This gift is bought through the death and resurrection of Jesus on the Cross. To understand the biblical view of grace here is a helpful video.

[Grace Video.](#)

Make sure to take attendance via the attendance reminder email.

### ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What is the best gift you've ever received?

### INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

In Ephesians 2:1-10, Paul examines the before and after contrast of the Christian life. In verses 1-3 see our default state after the fall, and in verses 4-10 how God's love and grace radically alters everything about who we are.

### INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

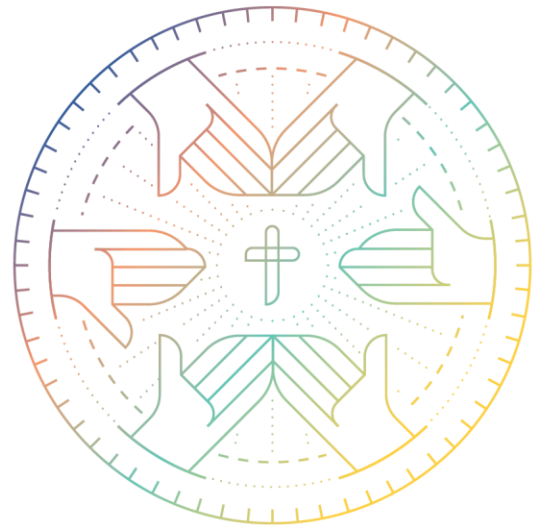
1. **Read Ephesians 2:1-3. After reading how Paul describes those that are dead, what sticks out to you from what you observed?**

#### ***H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE***

[We see in verse 1 that they follow the course of this world. They also follow the prince of the power of the air. In verse 3 they love in the passions of our flesh and carry out the desires of our body and mind. Paul ends verse three noting that we are children of wrath. **Observations:** Verses 1-2 Paul uses the word you. In verse 3 it shifts to we which infers Paul is including himself. This is leveling the playing field between the Gentiles and Jews. Also, important to note that the "prince of the power of the air is referencing Satan. See John 14:30, 2 Corinthians 4:4 for descriptions of him as ruler of this world.]

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2. **Read Ephesians 4-10. After reading how Paul describes those that are alive, what sticks out to you from what you observed?**

### ***H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE***

[In verse 5 made us alive together with Christ. In verse 6 we are raised and seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Verse 7 Shows the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness. In verse 8 salvation is a gift of God not by our works. In verse 10 we are created for good works to walk in them. When we are in a relationship with God we are adopted, sons or daughters, heirs to what Jesus has, and part of the Church which is the bride of Christ.]

3. **In verse 10 Paul describes that we have been created for good works. What do you think that means? Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. After reading this what do you now think good works mean?**

### ***H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE***

[In verse ten Paul refers to us as God's workmanship. The word workmanship in Greek is poiēma. This is where we get the word poem from. **Observations:** Note that we are created "in Christ". Our purpose for living is to walk in the good works that we were created for and that God has prepared. In 2 Corinthians we see that we have been reconciled with God and given us the ministry "job" of helping others reconcile to God.]

## **APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)**

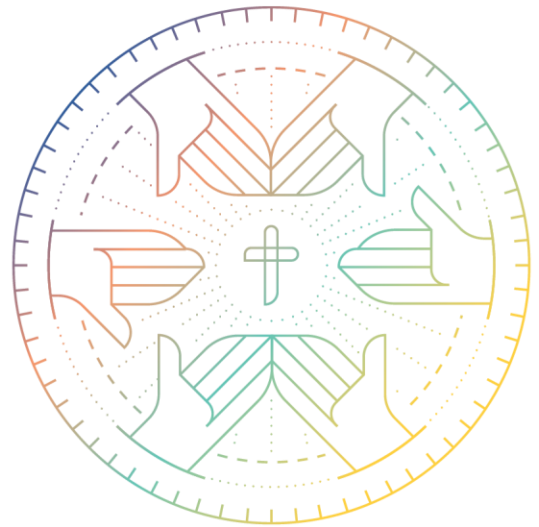
1. **Read Romans 5:9-11. What takeaways do you have about what God has done for us after looking at both Ephesians 2:1-10 and Romans 5:9-11?**

### ***H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE***

[When it comes to our salvation, we don't have anything to offer. We have been reconciled in our relationship with God. When Christ died on the cross, He satisfied God's judgment and made it possible for us to find peace with Him.]

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2. In verse 10 Paul states that we are created for good works. What good works could God have for you to walk in this week?

### ***H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE***

[Answers will vary. At Fairhaven, we talk about how we have a story. Sharing our story of how God has reconciled us is impactful. Is there someone you need to share your story with? Or invite to this group or church? God wants to use each of us right where we are at.]

3. Where in your life do you need to trust God? (Ex.) It is hard to trust God with my work because it doesn't feel fulfilling.) What is one tangible step you can take to trust God in that area this week? (Ex.) I will remind myself that God has me at my job for a reason and I want to honor God with the effort I put in at work.)

### ***H.O.S.T. GUIDANCE***

[Answers will vary. This is a great opportunity to start the conversation with your response. This will help model for the group that it is a safe place.]

## **PRAYER (10 MINUTES)**

Dear heavenly Father, thank you that even when we were dead in our trespasses, you have made us alive together with Christ. As we go about our week help us to be reminded that we are made new in you. May we rest in the understanding that we have been saved by your grace and not by anything that we do. Help us to be reminded that we are your masterpieces and may we walk in the knowledge of who we are now because of you. We pray all of this in your wonderful name. Amen.