

## 1/4/26 Discussion Guide: State of the Church - “*Work in Progress*”

### Scripture: Ephesians 2:8–10

#### 1. Grace & Identity

The “State of the Church” sermon emphasized that we are saved by *grace*, not by our works, and that we are God’s *handiwork*—a work in progress.

- Where have you personally seen God’s grace at work in your life over the past year?
- Is there an area where you struggle to receive grace instead of trying to “earn” God’s approval?

#### 2. Faith, Unity, and Trusting God’s Direction

Faith was described as confidence in God’s promises, even when we can’t see the whole picture—especially as a church navigates future decisions.

- Why is unity so important when a church steps out in faith?
- How can we practice unity even when we don’t all agree on every detail?

#### 3. Saved For Good Works

The sermon reminded us: “*We are not saved by good works, but we are saved for good works.*”

- How do you personally balance resting in God’s grace while also actively growing and serving?
- What is one small, intentional step of growth or service God may be inviting you into right now?

#### 4. Community & Living Life WITH Others

Paul speaks in “we” language, reminding us that faith is meant to be lived in community, not alone.

- Who are the people you are currently doing life *WITH*?
- How could your group more intentionally serve someone outside the church together in this season?

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#### Closing Prayer Prompt:

Pray together, thanking God for His grace, asking for unity as a church, and inviting Him to reveal the good works He has already prepared for each person and for your group.