



## Sermon Discussion Guide

### 1.25.26 Message | Tyler Myers | Ephesians 2:1-22

Note: This discussion guide is designed for both group and individual use. While some questions are written with group discussion in mind, individuals can still use this guide for personal reflection, journaling, and prayer. Simply adapt any group-oriented questions for your own study time.

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### LOOK BACK - Relationship & Accountability (~15% of your discussion)

#### → Share Life

- What's something simple you're thankful for right now?
- What's been taking most of your attention lately?
- Is there anyone in your community who needs help right now, and how can our group come alongside them?

#### → Follow Up From Last Time

- As you think back to last week, what stood out or stayed with you?
- Was there anything you felt invited to try, practice or pay attention to this week? How did that go?
- Did that show up in any conversations, choices or moments this week?
- Where did you see God at work - even in small ways?

### LOOK UP – Scripture & Discovery (~60%)

#### → Read (twice, in different translations)

- Read the text you are studying this week in the ESV out loud.
- Read the text you are studying this week a second time in an alternate version.

#### → Retell

- In your own words, summarize what the author is saying in this passage.

## Key Scripture (ESV)

*And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 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 with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*

- Ephesians 2:1-22

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## MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Sin is a war that belongs to the LORD, but you have to battle on his side of enemy lines!
- Grace doesn't only forgive sin; it raises the dead, reshapes identity and builds a new people (Ephesians 2).
- We don't pursue holiness to earn God's love; we pursue Jesus because we've been made alive by his love.
- Jesus doesn't just reconcile us to God; he breaks down dividing walls and makes us one new humanity in him.

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## CONVERSATION STARTER

What's one area of your life where you tend to make peace with sin instead of waging war against it with Jesus?

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## DISCUSS THE MESSAGE (Does your group understand the message?)

- What did you like about this passage?
- Did you find anything difficult about this passage?
- What does this passage teach about God?
- What does this passage teach about people?

## THINK DEEPER (Does your group understand the passage?)

1. Before Christ, Paul says we were “dead” in our sin. What does that tell you about your need for grace? (Ephesians 2:1–3)
2. What words or phrases stand out to you in Ephesians 2:4–9, and why?
3. How does “saved by grace... for good works” keep us from both pride and passivity? (Ephesians 2:8–10)
4. Where do you see division in your world that needs the reconciling power of Jesus? (Ephesians 2:11–22)
5. What would it look like this week to battle sin on “God’s side of enemy lines” instead of trying to fight it alone?

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## BRIDGE QUESTION

Based on this passage, what kinds of responses does it seem to invite? What direction does it seem to point our lives toward?

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## LOOK FORWARD – Application & Mission (~25%)

### → Inside Me

- Where do I need to bring my sin into the light instead of hiding it?
- What is one concrete step of obedience I can take this week to pursue Jesus in that area?

### → Who Else?

- Who might need encouragement that grace is real and change is possible?
- How can I move toward them with love and truth this week?

### → Pray Together

- Pray for clarity to see Jesus more clearly and follow him faithfully.
- Pray for strength to resist anything that competes for our allegiance and next steps.

- Pray for courage and grace to take the next faithful step that God is inviting us into.