



**Before & After**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2021**

**Key Scripture:** Ephesians 2:1–10

### **DISCUSSION GUIDE**

Four weeks into the 12-week series on the book of Ephesians, we're reminded that Paul is writing to Christians who have become stagnant, stale—who have put their lives on cruise control. In Ephesians 2, Paul paints a picture of life before and after Christ. The first few verses are about death and a hopeless life. Verse 4 is perhaps the most important 'but God' in all of scripture (we learned this Sunday that phrase shows up over 40 times in the Bible!). The after picture gives us hope, life, and purpose. And that Jesus is the path to the ultimate ever after.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them. If you're with a CV group, talk with them about anything you found memorable or confusing.
2. Read Ephesians 2:1–10. What terms does Paul use to describe our life before Christ?
3. Explain the importance of the short phrase, "But God."
4. In vs 5 and 8 what does Paul say we were saved from?
5. What did God do for those who were once dead?
6. Based on this passage, as followers of Jesus, what has happened in the past, what's going on now, and what can we expect to happen in the future?
7. According to Ephesians 2:10, who are we? What does this mean?
8. What do our lives look like when we live as if the gospel is merely for someone else?
9. How do these descriptions of God's action toward us move or encourage you? Are any of them new or surprising insights?
10. What's one thing you learned from Sunday's message and today's discussion that will help you become a better disciple of Christ, and help others do the same?

### **NOW WHAT?**

Wake up / Look up

