

# I M A G I N E

experiencing the life you've always dreamed of

## **Imagine.....Dead Men Coming Alive**

**Ephesians 2:1-10 (NLT2)** <sup>1</sup> *Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. <sup>2</sup> You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. <sup>3</sup> All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger (wrath), just like everyone else. <sup>4</sup> But God is so rich in mercy, and He loved us so much, <sup>5</sup> that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when He raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) <sup>6</sup> For He raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of His grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all He has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. <sup>9</sup> Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.*

1. Paul speaks of our possessions in Chapter 1 and he speaks of our position in chapter 2.
2. The riches of God are available to those who are in Christ.

3. The change between those who are in Christ and those who are not is **enormous**.

4. Your past does not have to indicate your future if you accept the gift of God.

## **1. The problem we had**

1. Without Christ we are spiritually **dead**.

2. We were dead because of our **disobedience**. Three forces encourage disobedience.

1. the **world**

2. The **flesh**

3. The **devil**

3. Without Christ we are **depraved**. marked by corruption or evil wicked, corrupt, perverted, deviant, degenerate, debased, immoral, unprincipled

4. Because of this we are **doomed**.

## **2. God's remedy—Grace**

1. God **loved you**.

2. God gave you **life**.

3. God **exalted** you with Christ.

4. He makes us **examples** of the **incredible** wealth of His grace and kindness.

### 3. What God does in you

1. You become his work of art.

**2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT2)** *This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

**Romans 8:29 (NLT2)** *For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.*

2. The Holy Spirit works in you.

**Philippians 2:13 (NLT2)** *For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.*

3. Jesus is working on your behalf in Heaven. Eph 4:7-16 Heb 13:20-21

4. Three tools God uses are God's Word, prayer, and adversity.

5. The same resurrection power that brought you life will also help you live for Christ and glorify Him.

### 4. What God does through you

1. John Calvin said, *"It is faith alone that justifies, but faith that justifies can never be alone."*

2. We are not saved by good works, we are saved to do good works.

3. Good works are not the path to salvation but they are the product of salvation.

4. Your works are the testimony you share daily of God's work in your life.

# Come alive in Jesus!