**Connect Group Study 18th May 2022: Ministry is for Everyone**

**Read: Ephesians 2:1-5**

On Sunday in the *Church is For Everyone* series Reema spoke about grace which is on offer to everyone through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are saved by grace, living in grace and working from grace. This is good news for a world which says your value is determined through working.

1. In these verses we see the natural tendencies of humans apart from Christ. It is a devastating state, spiritually dead. What reasons have you heard people give for the direction they’re going in their lives/staying in? (v1-3)
2. What does is mean to be deserving of God’s wrath? (v3)
3. Paul’s gospel is all about grace that is more than mere enrichment. It gives life to the dead. It is God’s free, undeserved gift. (v5) Many people think they earn their salvation by doing good works. Do you ever feel like you need to earn God’s favor or grace? If so, why do you think it’s hard for you to accept his grace as a free gift?

**Read: Ephesians 2:6-9**

1. What are the implications of being “raised up with Christ” and of being seated with him “in the heavenly realms”? (v6)
2. Why does Paul work so hard to make it crystal clear that this salvation is by grace, not our works or human effort? (v8)

**Read: Ephesians 2:10**

1. How do you respond to the fact that you are God’s handiwork, his artistic creation?
2. What are some good works for which God created us?
3. What hinders you from doing the good works God prepared for you to do?
4. “The ministers of the church are all its converted members”. There are good works for each of us to do in serving the body of Christ. What are the ways in which we can minister to one another?
5. How can we keep serving from a place of grace?

**Pray**

* Thank God for his grace which has brought us from the death to life and seated us in the heavenly realms.
* Ask that God would show us what good works we can do for him.
* Pray that we would do good works and serve from a place of being stirred by his grace.

-Encourage people to sign up for church leadership course, starting Tuesday 7th June for 6 weeks. More details are on the church website.