

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, **2** in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. **3** All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh^[a] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. **4 But because of his great love for us**, God, who is **rich in mercy**, **5 made us alive with Christ** even when we were dead in transgressions—it is **by grace** you have been **saved**. **6** And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, **7** in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. **8** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, **it is the gift of God**— **9** not by works, so that no one can boast. **10** For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Jew and Gentile Reconciled Through Christ

11 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands) — **12** remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. **13** But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

1. Salvation

First of all, there is no greater gift than the gift of salvation! This gift was given through Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. Ephesians 2:8 tells us that "God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God."

2. Peace That Passes All Understanding

Philippians 4:7 says, "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (*KJV*). No matter how stressful the situation we are in, we can rely on a God-given peace that makes no sense to the world.

3. Provision

Other people may worry about the ups and downs of the economy, but we don't have to because God has promised to provide for us. "And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

4. Direct Line to God

Mark 11:24 tells us, "You can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours." This applies to material things as well things like peace, safety and favor. We have a direct line to our heavenly Father.

5. Joy

John 15:11 says, “I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!” These are Jesus’ words directly to us. Our joy doesn’t come from outside circumstances but from the Holy Spirit who resides within us.

6. Heaven on Earth

Luke 17:21 tells us, “You won’t be able to say, ‘Here it is!’ or ‘It’s over there!’ For the Kingdom of God is already among you.” What does this mean for us? It means that the Kingdom is available to us at all times because Jesus lives within us. We can create a Kingdom life, right here!

7. Family and Friends

God places people in our lives to be a blessing to us, so we can also bless others. Your family, friends and church family are your greatest blessing and your biggest support system. The Bible explains this in Ephesians 4:15-16, “Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.”

8. Grace

Grace is God’s unmerited favor, His special gift to us. Romans 11:6 says, “Since it is through God’s kindness, then it is not by their good works. For in that case, God’s grace would not be what it really is—free and undeserved.”

9. Healing

First Peter 2:24 is used quite a bit, and it is an incredibly powerful verse. Although you have probably heard this over and over, try to read it with fresh eyes: “He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds, you are healed.” Because of what Jesus did for us on the cross, we have access to the healing power of God.

10. Abundant life

In [John 10:10](#), Jesus tells us that “the thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” (*KJV*). Abundance is an excess of something. If we have a life of abundance, it is a life that is overflowing—overflowing with love, peace, and grace.

Sharing question: Consider a situation with which you are dealing right now in your life. If you truly believed that God is faithful to his word and his promises, how would that affect your attitude or your actions? Write down your thoughts and be prepared to share them with Chat on LIVE study! Consider making this your weekly prayer request, asking for enough faith to act on God’s faithfulness to you in the situation.

6. Responding to God: Pray your prayer request for yourself; begin with praising God for his faithfulness. You may want to pray back the verse that was most meaningful to you. Write down your prayer.