

Gamma 11

Study 6

Ephesians 2:5-7

Section A (Exegetical Questions)

1. What did God do for us in verse 4 to 7 ?
2. What contribution did we bring to the issue of salvation according to these verses ?
3. Why did God do what He did for us ?
4. What does it mean for us to be seated at the right hand of God? We are still on earth how can this be so? Was he speaking metaphorically?
- 5 In verse 7 Paul writes down the ultimate purpose of God in saving us what is this ?
6. In verse 8-9 can we tell of our faith is the basis upon which God saves us? What is the difference between the believing Christian and the atheist is it the grace of God or the will of man?
7. In verse 10 we are told that we are His workmanship created for good works. In the context of the verse and the use of the word “walk” and the way Ephesians 4 to 6 is written does Paul mean good works as in the things we do or good conduct in the way we live? Look at our ultimate purpose Ephesians 1:4. Is there a difference and does it matter?

Section B

Reflection Questions

1. When someone tells you that they wish that they could believe in Jesus and they just can't have enough faith what do they mean? Can a person be in position to have no faith in anything at all ?
2. If we believe that we have the ability to first make the unbiased choice to believe in Jesus and then God gives you the grace to live the Christian life and his continued grace to us depends on our faith , how will that affect our daily lives?
3. How does knowing that we are saved by grace and a grace alone affect how we live and feel about our selves and how we feel about others as well.

Section C

Case history

Kok Wai attended a Billy Graham Rally years ago and was a young man who was a part of the Jehovah Witness movement at the time. He learnt about the salvation of God offered freely on the cross through Jesus Christ. He thought about it really hard. The speaker said all you have to do is believe and he did and renounced his JW views and took Jesus as his Lord and Saviour. He joyfully shared his testimony with his JW friends and told them how he heard the message and it made sense and he believed and because of his belief he was now saved. They did not buy his story and he began to look down on them because they were believing in a lie. He had given them their chance to believe but they had rejected him so he was not going to bother with them any more.

However the death of his daughter due to a sudden illness really took a toll on his life and his faith. He nursed a hidden grudge against God and questioned why God would take his only child away whilst others who were less serious in their faith were happily with their families. His JW friends were doing well and look at how God had treated him. He was constantly angry. Kok Wai was a deacon in church and served faithfully for years. He kept up appearances and never did share his doubts. He felt increasingly distant from God and quit his service as a deacon. He no longer felt confident to share the gospel as he felt his faith was shaky. He continued to read his bible but felt dry inside. He felt God no longer loved him and the more he retreated from the fellowship the more alone he felt and the more he felt that his faith was not strong enough and when his colleague asked him if he could come to his house to pray for him as he had been experiencing some marital problems, Kok Wai declined. Now whenever he got on an aeroplane he would be very nervous because he did not know if he was going to be saved if it crashed.

- 1. Why do you think Kok Wai started to look down on his JW friends and did not want to associate with them any more ?**
- 2. Why do you think Kok Wai then became constantly angry at his friends when his daughter died?**
- 3. Why was Kok Wai now fearful to get on aeroplanes**
- 4. How would you counsel Kok Wai?**