

Works

Sunday Feb 22, 2009

Eph 2:1-10

Intro

Diagnosing – Sometimes Easy, Sometimes Not!

- Broken Arm vs Stress
- Diagnosing a Common Spiritual Problem

Works

Word “Works” Used Twice in this Passage

Two Big Ideas – Common Themes in Paul

- Not By Works – Grace, Gift (Eph 2:8-9)
- Do Good Works – Workmanship, Prepared (Eph 2:10)

The Logic

God’s Gift Moves to Action

Two Dangers

- Trying to Earn God’s Gift
- I Don’t Have to Do Anything

A Checklist

- Gratitude – Praise and Thanks the Response to Grace
- Fear – Reluctance to Get Close to God
- Response – Obedience Always Response to Love Shown
- God Owes Me – Rather than I Owe Him
- Optional – Smorgasbord Approach
- Real Change – What You Do or Not Do Because of Jesus
- Glory of God – vs All About Me

Change – Getting Started

Back to Paul’s Prayer – Open Our Eyes

Take it Home!

Read Eph 2:1-10.

Paul uses the word “works” twice in the last three verses of this passage. Can you put into your own words the point he is trying to make with each use?

The talk on Sunday mentioned two dangers related to works - trying to earn God’s free gift, and believing we don’t need to do anything in response to God’s gift. Which of these dangers do you face more?

Use the checklist provided to ‘diagnose’ your own attitude to “works”. Share your insights!

Take It Home - Take this home and use these questions to think about the ideas shared today. It is even better if you can use these questions in a conversation with someone else.