



Sermon Outline:

Only by Grace Through Faith

Ephesians 2:1-10

I. The Heart of the Reformation

Key Truth: Before God changes a church, He changes a heart.

Question: What do people often use to measure spiritual worth that God does not?

Application: Examine whether you are trusting in appearances, traditions, or a genuine relationship with Christ.

II. The Problem of Trying to Earn God's Favor

Key Truth: Luther discovered that human effort can never earn salvation.

- Many people believe:
 - "If I become better, God will accept me."
 - "If I do more, God will love me more."
- Scripture teaches salvation is God's gift.

Question: In what ways do we still try to earn what God freely gives?

Application: Surrender any mindset that bases God's love on your performance.

III. Grace Is God's Gift

Key Verse: "For by grace you have been saved through faith..." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Key Truth: Grace is God's undeserved favor.

Salvation is not a reward; it is a gift.

Discussion Question: Why is it sometimes difficult to accept free grace?

Application: Thank God daily for His gift of salvation rather than trying to earn it.

IV. Luther's Life-Changing Discovery

Key Truth: Righteousness is not achieved; it is received by faith.

- Romans 1:17 transformed Luther's life.
- One heart changed by grace can impact many others.

Question: How has God's grace changed your life personally?

Application: Share your testimony of God's grace with someone this week.

V. Personal Reformation Today

Key Truth: Every believer needs continual renewal.

- Like David, we may need to pray, "Restore to me the joy of your salvation."
- Faith can become routine if we lose sight of grace.

Question: Is there an area of your spiritual life that needs renewal?

Application: Ask God to restore your joy, passion, and trust in Him.

VI. Stand on Grace Alone

Key Truth: Our confidence rests in Christ, not ourselves.

- When you feel guilty, stand on grace.
- When you feel weak, stand on grace.
- When you feel unworthy, stand on grace.

Question: What challenges are testing your confidence in God's grace today?

Application: Replace self-reliance with faith in Christ's finished work.

VII. Conclusion

Main Lesson: We are **saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.**

Questions: Am I trusting in my works or in Christ's grace?

Have I fully received God's gift of salvation?

What step of faith is God calling me to take today?

Application: This week, whenever you feel guilt, fear, failure, or inadequacy, remind yourself:

"I am forgiven, accepted, and loved, not because of what I have done, but because of what Christ has done for me."

Closing Prayer:

"Lord, restore the joy of Your salvation in our hearts and help us stand firmly on Your grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen."