

# First, the Bad News

Ephesians 2:1-3  
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Ephesians 2:1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

**1. If we don't start with God's perspective on the Gospel, we miss the \_\_\_\_\_.**

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**2. We need to understand the bad news of our condition apart from Christ before we can understand or even \_\_\_\_\_ the Good News of the Gospel.**

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**3. Before Christ, we were \_\_\_\_\_ spiritually dead.**

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**4. We were sinners by \_\_\_\_\_ and our choices.**

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**5. When you share the Gospel, God uses that to \_\_\_\_\_ spiritually dead people.**

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**6. Are you listening to Satan's \_\_\_\_\_?**

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**7. To escape this spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ takes nothing less than the new birth found in Christ.**

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## Discussion Questions:

- According to Ephesians 2:1-3, what does it mean to be “spiritually dead”? How is this different from simply being “morally weak” or “spiritually sick”?
- How does Romans 3:10–18 describe humanity’s spiritual condition apart from Christ? Why is this portrait so unflinchingly bleak?
- What does it mean that we were “children of wrath” by nature (Eph. 2:3)? How does that shape our understanding of God’s justice?
- What happens when the Gospel is presented without the reality of sin and judgment?
- The teaching mentions three forces working against humanity: the world, the flesh, and the devil. How do these forces influence people today, and how should Christians resist them?
- When you reflect on your life before Christ, how do you see evidence of spiritual deadness? How does this understanding increase your gratitude for salvation?
- What areas of your life do you feel most vulnerable to “propaganda from the prince of the power of the air”? (Think: media, social pressures, influences)

**Next Week’s Message: Ephesians 2:4-7**