



Session One

Overview:

- It is imperative that we understand more fully our “togetherness” with Christ.
- It is also very important we learn in a deeper way what “together” means for us in our relationships.
- We prefer independence as opposed to dependency on the Lord or interdependency with others.
- We prefer self-reliance and control.
- We do not want to be perceived as weak and/or needy for fear of what others might think or how we might be taken advantage of.
- We don’t want to be disappointed or get hurt.
- We are rarely willing to raise our hand and ask for help. Few if any have any idea what we might be struggling with. The problem? In our culture we can see that as a strength.
- We are rarely able to see the needs of those around us. The problem with that is family members and friends may be really hurting and we remain oblivious and/or disinterested. When we do see we will often just try and throw money at it.
- We typically end up with a head knowledge relationship with God and surface relationships with those around us. There is no real intimacy to those relationships, so they unfortunately do not hold a very special place in our hearts. Instead, we find our joy in things that matter very little or are not healthy at all.

Ephesians 2: 1 – 10

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. 4 **But God**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, **made us alive together with Christ**—by grace you have been saved— 6 and **raised us up with him** and **seated us with him** in the heavenly places **in Christ Jesus**, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us **in Christ Jesus**. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Discussion Questions:

- What is your current view or belief about the word “together” and implications of it that was shared today?
- Did any of the patterns mentioned hit home or resonate with you?
- What level of “together” are you experiencing, or have you experienced, with the Lord?
- What, if anything, about the “present tense” truth we have in Christ appeals to you or perhaps spoke to you in a deeper way today?

**Next Week:
I Corinthians 12:
12 - 26**

Building on “together with the Lord Jesus Christ,” we will be addressing “together with others.” Please come ready to address this most important topic as so wonderfully laid out for us in the I Corinthians 12 passage.