

# Saved To Unity

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Look for the “Therefores” to show how each piece builds on the idea before it.

## Saved by Grace

**Ephesians 2:1-10**

You were dead. Totally dead.

We are revived together in Christ.

Saved by grace, through faith, not of works lest any man should boast.

**Robert Farrar Capon**

"Trust him. And when you have done that, you are living the life of grace. No matter what happens to you in the course of that trusting - no matter how many waverings you may have, no matter how many suspicions that you have bought a poke with no pig in it, no matter how much heaviness and sadness your lapses, vices, indispositions, and bratty whining may cause you - you believe simply that Somebody Else, by his death and resurrection, has made it all right, and you just say thank you and shut up.

The whole slop-closet full of mildewed performances (which is all you have to offer) is simply your death; it is Jesus who is your life. If he refused to condemn you because your works were rotten, he certainly isn't going to flunk you because your faith isn't so hot. You can fail utterly, therefore, and still live the life of grace. You can fold up spiritually, morally, or intellectually and still be safe. Because at the very worst, all you can be is dead - and for him who is the Resurrection and the Life, that just makes you his cup of tea."

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**This is the bad and the good news. You're dead. That's bad, because you can't do anything about your deadness. Someone else has to take care of that. The good news is that Jesus' specialty is raising dead things back to life. The trouble for us is in the trusting Him in our helpless state of deadness.**

**WE HAVE A HABIT OF STOPPING HERE.** *We stop here, thanks Jesus for what He has done for us and move along all the while forgetting that we are not just saved from something, we are also saved to something. We are not just saved from death, but we are also saved to LIFE.*

## Therefore, One Body

**Ephesians 2:11-22**

One major implication of the gospel of grace is that the dividing wall of hostility between different types of people is torn down and we are all born again into a new family.

Where there were two bodies, there is now one.

Where there were 2 cultures, there is now a new 3<sup>rd</sup> culture.

**The gospel has not fully taken root, until it has been demonstrated in the diversity of those that you love, and love you.**

**Watching my Mom get sick in the hospital and how many DIFFERENT people have been gathered around her life it strikes me that there is a way to live your life that collects all kinds of people that you love and that love you too. There is also a way to live your life that only draws people that are like you, if anyone at all.**

Too many times I have seen people reach a tragedy in their lives only to find that there is no one to call because they have simply not allowed the gospel of grace to effect the way they see relationships and community.

If this is missing from your life, it isn't because you are too busy. Everyone is busy, and everyone has always been busy. There has never been a time in history when anyone has said, "You know, we have nothing to do in this society. Let's make friends in our spare time."

**If this is missing in your life it's because you do not see that you were not just saved from spiritual death, but you were also saved TO a SPIRITUAL LIFE and that new life is integrally connected to other people.**

**One of the major things we are all saved TO is a life of rich connection to other people that we would otherwise never be connected to. This is like anything else. We must change in order to do this, and that change will happen along the way. We find the grace to change as we go.**