

DIGDEEPER

October 25, 2015
Ephesians 2:4-7 ([Listen](#))
Dr. Richard Rogers

THE BIG IDEA

This passage is the essence of our faith—that a holy God loved undeserving sinners so much that he made them alive in Jesus. Out of the richness of his mercy, God made you alive! We could think about the staggering mercy and grace of God for a lifetime and barely scratch the surface of its depth. The love of God should serve as the fuel for our holiness and our evangelism. Knowing this truth will change the way we live before God and others.

START A CONVERSATION (Use this to begin a Conversation that Matters with your kids, co-workers, spouse, or someone in line at the grocery store. Then, [tell us about it.](#))

How do you know God loves you?

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- What is the gospel?
- What is the worst thing you've ever done, and how does it make you feel to think about it? How do the emotions you feel change the way you read Ephesians 2:4?
- How did God make you alive? Write out the story of your salvation and then share it with someone who has never heard it this week.
- Why did God make you alive? What difference has salvation made in your life?
- In what way has God shown you "great love" recently?

GO DEEPER

- Paul mentions both mercy and grace in this passage. We often use those words interchangeably, but [the difference matters.](#)
- The mercy God showed us was no ordinary thing. Take a few minutes out of your day and [let John Sartelle lead you](#) to look more closely at what God did for you in Christ.
- Paul speaks of God's "great love with which he loved us." This isn't just a concept or trait of God. It is a deeply personal love that should make our hearts rejoice. Follow along as [John Piper explains why.](#) Or, watch as James MacDonald offers [some similar reflections.](#)
- Sometimes we are tempted to think we've got the basics down and are ready to move on to bigger things. [Watch](#) as Dr. Conrad Mbewe reminds us that we should never graduate from the gospel. Instead, we are to keep our hearts on "a well beaten path to the cross."

LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

This passage has some of the greatest reason for celebration we could ever imagine. We gain a lot in salvation, but God receives even more as he displays "the surpassing riches of his grace" in us. God gets glory as he works in our lives. Think of five ways God has been generous to you. Spend the next week thanking God for one of these each day. Ask him to make himself known to the world as you live your life this week.