

## PART 3&4: WITH THE WORLD AND CHURCH

WEEK 9: GOD'S PEOPLE ARE TRANSFORMED

WARM UP: If you could change anything about yourself, what would it be?

- 1. Read Ephesians 1:15-19a. The Apostle Paul celebrated the believers' faith and love, but he knew God had more for them. Look at Paul's prayer... are you experiencing the "more" Paul is praying for them? Share your experiences with the group.
- 2. Read Ephesians 1:19b-23. Create a hierarchy of "powers" in the universe (starting with ants and finishing with Jesus). What does it mean practically that God's "incomparably great power" is "for us who believe" (v19)?
- 3. Read Ephesians 2:1-3. The Apostle Paul describes the state of humanity before Jesus as being "dead". How do you relate these verses to your own experience of your life before Christ? What stops other people from realising their own 'deadness'?
- 4. Read Ephesians 2:4-9. There's no greater description of grace in the whole Bible! Say out loud all the things God does in these verses. In what ways can "works" sneak back into our understanding of the gospel and our relationship with God? What are the consequences of a not-fully-grace gospel?
- **5. Read Ephesians 2:10.** Here are "works"! Not as a requirement for our salvation, but as a consequence of it. What hope do you find in these verses for a meaningful and fruitful life in Christ?

PRAY: Ask God to help you fully understand his power & grace.