

## **Saved By Grace**

† **Ephesians 2:8-9** *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith- and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- not by works, so that no one can boast.*

Within you is a human nature that wants to be in control. It wants to take credit for all the things you like, and to deny responsibility for the things you consider bad. These verses from Ephesians describe the correct understanding of how God has operated regarding your faith in him as your LORD and Savior.

This passage clearly tells of God's motive and action regarding how everyone becomes a believer. The two most instructive words are:

**grace**- which is God's undeserved love for you

**gift**- something God has freely given without your asking for it

This means your faith...

† ...is not something you've earned

† ...is not something that comes from yourself

† ...is not something you can boast about

† ...is a gift

It is of additional importance that we emphasize God's perspective on our lives and his purpose for it.

† **1 Corinthians 6:19-20** *Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.*

*A life of personal ministry is not a choice you make, it is a result of being a believer. It's not like one day you decide to start doing something for God. The Holy Spirit works in your heart to live a life of service. Recognize the giver of the gift, and thank him in your heart. Honor him with your life. Live in him, with him, for him.*

***Your life is not your own. Your life is your personal ministry to God.***