

# INKED

*some things don't change*

GRACE • WEEK 3 • DEC. 3/4, 2011 (BOB MERRITT)

## INTRODUCTION

Pastor Bob mentioned that the promise he banks his entire life on—whenever he has doubts about his salvation, or God’s love—is Ephesians 2:8-9 which says, “For it is by grace that you are saved through faith. It is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not of works can anyone boast.” This is a fantastic promise that is for all of us—it is unchangeable—inked in scripture for all time and for all people.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever had a recurring dream about failure, fear or not making the cut? Explain. What is the emotion you feel?
2. Who were you back in school? What were your experiences and how have they had an imprint on your life today?
3. What is the “scariest door” experience you have ever walked through? What was the result? Pastor Bob talked about a door that each of us will stand in front of, knowing that God is waiting for us on the other side. He will be waiting to review our life. What ideas or thoughts go through your mind as you picture that?
4. In the Bible Paul writes, “For by grace you have been saved.” The Greek word for grace is ‘charis’ and it means gift. It is all by God’s grace that we are saved and he offers it to us because he loves us. We can’t earn or work for it and we don’t deserve it—it is a gift that God gives us. Where are you in understanding this? How would you explain this?
5. Jesus defeated the biggest, baddest enemy known to mankind—death. We are saved, not by climbing higher and higher levels of achievement or good works, but by God’s grace through his Son Jesus. Is this real for you? How real?

## THINK ABOUT IT

Grace is God’s part, faith is our part. But some people wonder, what is faith? Hebrews 11:1 says, “Faith is being sure of what we hope for.” What we hope for is heaven—eternal life with God and loved ones. Faith is putting our trust in things we haven’t seen based upon what we know. How do you understand faith in God?

## MEMORIZE

Ephesians 2:4 “Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in our sins.”

## CLOSING

Rely on God, believe in God and put your trust in God! Respond to God—in his Son Jesus who died on a cross, paid for your sins with his sacrifice, beat death, rose again and offers salvation to all who receive him!

