

## **Good Works & Good News**

*The Significance of Loving Our City*

*April 28th, 2024*

*Gabe Garcia, New City Church*

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.--**Ephesians 2:10**

## **Good Works Start with God**

## **Good Works are a Way Humanity Reflects God**

## **Good Works Make the Good News Believable**

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.--**Matthew 5:16**

## **So What?**

**For further thought and discussion:**  
**Getting Started**

- What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?

**Read Ephesians 2:1-10**

Read the passage aloud a few times. Read a few different translations if available.

Pray!!

- What are your initial observations or questions about the text?
  - Take some time to rejoice in the good news!
- What makes a work, or really anything, good?
  - In the creation story, God declares His creation is good. What does this teach us about what is good?
- Read verses 9 and 10 again. What's the difference between working for salvation and doing good works because we are saved?
  - Looking at verses 1-3, what are we capable of outside of relationship with God?
- God had a purpose for Adam, and with that, all of humanity (Genesis 2:15 - The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.)
  - What are God's purposes that are meant for all Christians?
- Can we discern what the works are that are prepared beforehand for us? How so?
  - Is there anything that comes to mind for you specifically?
  - How can we be accountable that we are stepping into these things? How might we need to be held accountable? (following through, trusting in God, humility, etc.)
- Jesus talks about how our good works will naturally affect others. (Matthew 5:14-16 - **14** "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be

hidden. **15** Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.)

- How can this encourage us as we seek to do good works?