

## FUSION Q's... The Meaning of Life 1: The Beautiful Let Down

### **Discussion Starter...**

Would you rather have a bad headache or bad gas pains? What if you were in a room full of very important people? Why?

Q. If life is meaningless without God, why are there so many people who don't want anything to do with him?

Q. Have you had times in your life when you felt your life had no meaning? Where was your relationship with God at the time you were feeling like this?

### **Read Eph 2:1-10**

Q. Compare Paul's positive view of life with King Solomon's (Ecc. 1-2). How do these verses treat life differently than King Solomon in Ecclesiastes? What does Paul see in life that Solomon doesn't?

Q. What does Paul mean when he says "you were dead because of your disobedience and many sins"?

Q. Who is at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God?

Q. How did God deal with us being "dead in our sins"?

Q. Why would God want to give us life if we are so full of sin and disobedience?

Q. Is this life or salvation given to us for doing good things? Why or why not?

Q. How does it make you feel to know that you are God's "masterpiece"?

### **Bible Passages for Discussion**

#### **Ephesians 2:1-10 (p.704)**

<sup>1</sup> Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. <sup>2</sup> You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. <sup>3</sup> All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else.

<sup>4</sup> But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, <sup>5</sup> that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) <sup>6</sup> For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. <sup>9</sup> Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.