

What Matters?

"You Matters"

Reference: **Ephesians 2:4-5**

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YOU REALLY DO MATTER!

I. *"But God..."*

- A. Oh, but God! If it weren't for the Creator of the universe and His divine plan.
- B. The hinge
References: **Ephesians 2:1-3; Psalm 139:23-24**

II. *"... being rich in mercy..."*

- A. God being merciful basically means that, when we deserve punishment, He doesn't punish us, and in fact blesses us instead.
- B. Because of His love for us, God wants us to be with Him. His mercy is required for that to take place.

III. *"... because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ..."*

- A. Shadow Mountain Church, should be a place where love is! ...a place where people recognize and realize that great love with which He loves us!
- B. *"Even when we were dead in our trespasses..."* This goes SO far beyond comprehension, yet I embrace it with all that I am because of who He is.
 - 1. You and I love many things and on many different levels.
 - 2. The only way to love like He loves is to learn it from Him. This is the call to live a counterintuitive life!

IV. *"... by grace you have been saved"*

- A. Saved, or salvation is the "act of being delivered, redeemed, or rescued."
- B. "HOW?" - Religions throughout history have asserted that salvation can be achieved through good works. No matter how good we may be, the fact is that we simply do not have the power or goodness to overcome the sin nature we have that we inherited from Adam. We need something else, something far more powerful than you or I can "DO" to find hope. This is where grace comes in.

- C. The grace of God - His undeserved favor given to those He has called to salvation through His love. It is His grace that saves us from sin. The means God has chosen to bestow His grace upon us is through faith.

References: **Romans 3:24; Hebrews 11:1**

V. *"You Matters"*

- A. You Matters to Him! GOD DEARLY LOVES YOU!
Reference: **John 3:16**
- B. Today, if you fall into that depressing list of things that all lead to brokenness, know that God loves you first of all! Recognize that He has done everything you need to find hope and salvation through the Gospel.
- C. Let me end as we began... Oh *"But God..."*
 - 1. It all indeed begins with God. Do you feel like you 'really don't matter?' One question for you... why on earth would the God of the Heavens send His Son to die for you?
The answer? YOU DO INDEED MATTER!
 - 2. Why would he do all of that for someone as undeserving as you? Because of His great Love! And amazingly, to Him... YOU DO INDEED MATTER!
 - 3. Oh but God knows your heart. Don't think you can hide your brokenness. Come running to Him... or running back to Him, knowing that it is all His work to begin with!

To HIM...
You Matter...
and His love is the proof.