

## 20. "Iniquity"

Ephesians 2:1–10 (NIV)¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁿ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹¹0 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Watch the video from The Bible Project **Iniquity** prior to or at the start of the study.

- 1. After watching the video, how might the biblical understanding of the word "avon" shape how you understand humanity, sin, or God?
- 2. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What insights can we gain about ourselves and about God from this passage?
- 3. Sin is often spoken of as a cosmic force (see v 2) that not only devours individuals but pervades society and structures. How have you seen sin penetrating the world in a larger scale like this? (in the Bible or in your own experience?)
- 4. Ephesians 2:8-9 are familiar to many of us but what personally strikes you about verse 10 in light of verses 8 & 9? In light of this, what are some "good works" that God has created you for that you sense He is now calling you to do?