Recap of 11/1/26 message by Chris Sommerfield
("But God") Ephesians 2:1-10

- Ephesians 2:1-10 illustrates the transformation of believers from spiritual death due to sin to new life through Jesus Christ, emphasizing salvation by grace through faith. This passage reassures Christians of their identity in Christ, helping us understand that our value is not based on works, but on God's grace. It encourages us to live out our faith and share the good news with others who may feel lost or unworthy. The theme revolves around the transformative power of God's grace in our lives, urging us to accept our identity as new creations and to walk in the good works prepared for us.

- Paul begins this section by highlighting our dire condition without Christ. We were dead in our sin. This is a spiritual death leaving us with the impossibility of self-rescue. We were aligned with worldly ways and deserving of the wrath of God, literally "children of wrath." But God… These are perhaps two of the most amazing words in Scripture. Even though we were dead in sin, deserving of wrath, and aligned with the very opposition to God in Satan and the world, God acted. God made us alive in Christ Jesus, and He does this because of His great love with which He loved us! We cannot miss this. God saves us by His grace through faith. It is a gift. All we have to do is accept it. Yes, walking with Christ means growing in a depth of relationship with Him that will transform the way you think and live. But the message here is not live right so that you can be saved. No. The message is accept what God has done for you by faith. Faith, which is inherently relational, having the idea of trust. To have faith in God is to say that you trust in God because you believe He is trustworthy. And He is the only one we can place our trust in for it is He who makes us alive. Upon accepting this gift, you become a new creation, His workmanship, His masterpiece, and He will chip away at the rock that you've been encased in as His Spirit helps you walk (live) the way you were always meant to. So… do you believe? If you do, are you ready to walk with the LORD?