



HEAVEN EARTH

Heaven on Earth: Living Fully

September 19th & 20th

Speaker: Joel Schmidgall

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10

Series Overview

Our identity, our authority is anchored in a dimension of reality called heaven. It is the domain of God's dominion — perfect harmony, true identity, full authority. Every blessing is ours in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 1:3). Heaven is invading earth right here, right now. How? With a supernatural demonstration of God's love and power and wisdom. As citizens of heaven, we represent the heavenly realm. The goal? On earth, as it is in heaven.

Series Discussion Questions

How did you witness heaven invading earth this week?

Message Overview

So many of us find ourselves stuck. Stuck in routine. Stuck in frustration. Stuck in systems that hold us down. Stuck in destructive patterns. Stuck in sin that tangles us up. It almost seems impossible to escape. But do you know that God works best in the impossible?

Ephesians 2:1-10 speaks to our journey in Christ. It takes us on a journey from who we were, to who we are, to who we can become. We go from our destruction, to God's grace, to God's purpose for us. Do you know that God's grace can overcome sin, Satan, and every structure? His grace catapults us to faith. His faith fills us to understand who we are. We are God's workmanship, His masterpiece, his work of art. And it's when we know who we are that we can understand where we are going. We go from identity to destiny. And in Christ, and through God's Spirit, we can lean in to understand what it means to fully live!

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

Take a moment of silence to breathe and take inventory of your heart. As you examine your heart - would you say you're living fully on this earth? Are you flourishing or are you empty?

Read though Ephesians 2:1-4. Have you ever found yourself meandering through a season of life? During that season, what did you learn about the mercy of God?

Pastor Joel shared how "*Ephesians 2 goes from who I was, to who I am, to what I shall be. Who we were is not who we are.*" So, how would you describe the person you are becoming? Ask your group or a few close friends, how would describe the person you are becoming?

Read Ephesians 2:10. The Greek word for "handiwork" is *Poiema* – from which we get our word poem. It's a masterpiece. We are God's work of art. What does that mean for God to be writing His story through your life?

God has prepared good works in advance for us. Let's declare the things that God has planted inside of us and is preparing for us. Take 30 seconds to listen to your heart. What is God declaring over your own life? Over your group members? Over your church?

Practical Application

- Following the last question, Write down the things God declared over you. Over the next 5-days, meditate & reflect on those words. *What is God revealing about those declaration?*
- Find a daily rhythm of connecting with God and with one another by committing to [NCC Daily](#), a new five-minute audio podcast to help you walk verse-by-verse through the book of Ephesians. Invite a few others to do so with you, connecting throughout the week via Marco Polo or a group text, or meeting together online or in person to discuss and debrief what you're learning.
- Climb the stairs to the [Upper Zoom](#) each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. Join us as we start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. Register at ncc.re/UpperZoom.