

Heartland Kids Weekend Bulletin

November 14-15, 2020



Ephesians 2:1-6 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.

What we were:

- Paul tells us in the first part of Ephesians, chapter 2 (verses 1-3), that we are:
 - Dead
 - Enslaved
 - Condemned
- That can sound scary, but what he means is that we aren't living our lives the way God wants us to. We focus on our own needs, what seems fair or right to us, instead of asking God what we need and what He says is right. When we don't follow God, we are “deserving of wrath” (verse 3). Wrath here means God's judgment and punishment for our sins. But there is hope!

What we are/could be:

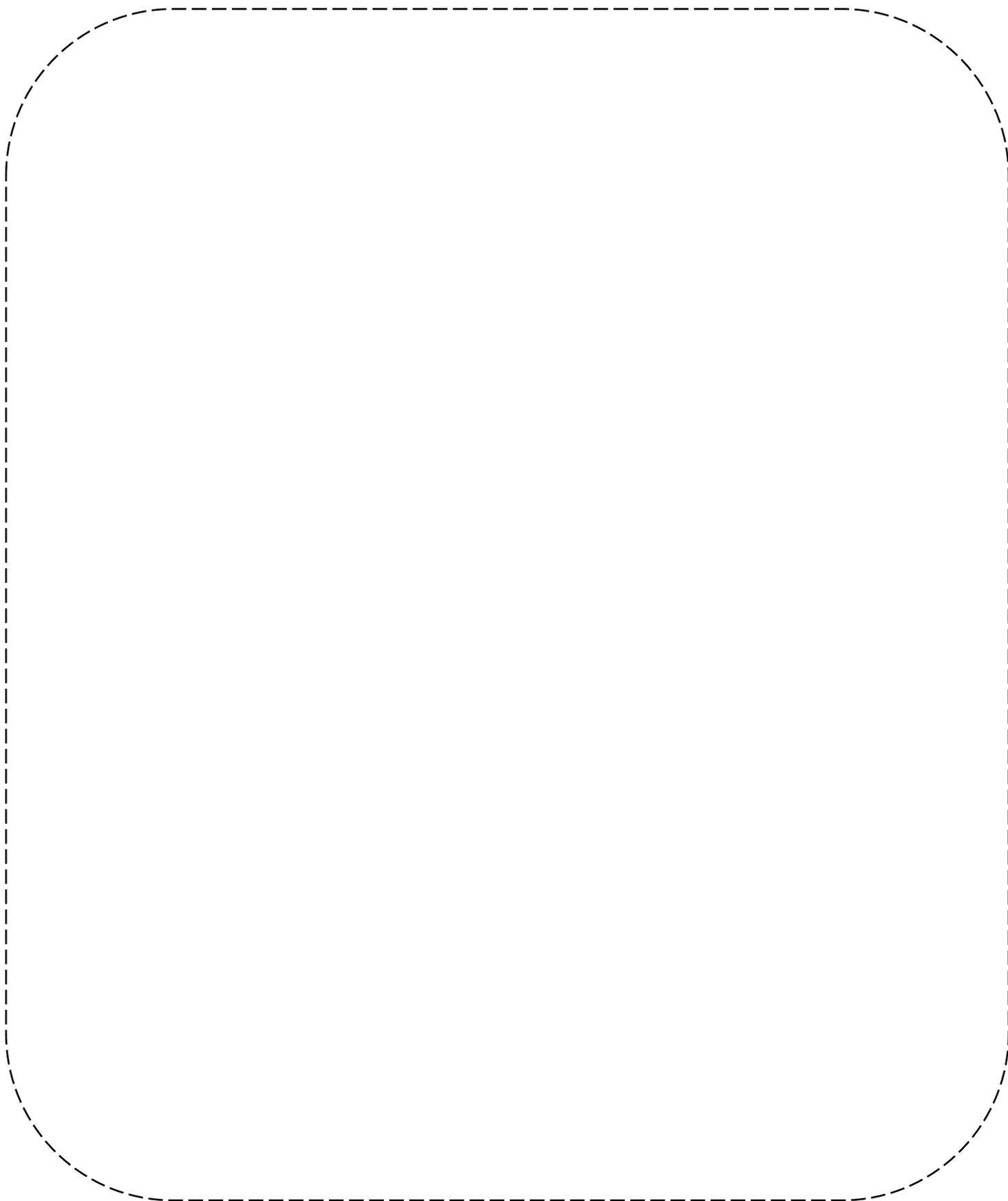
- God has mercy on us! Mercy is us **NOT** getting what we deserve, which is God's wrath. Instead, God sent Jesus to take His wrath for us. He loves us so much that He showed mercy by saving us from the judgment and punishment we deserve. That means it is our job to become fully alive and accept God's mercy and Jesus' sacrifice.
- Something we can often forget is that we have God's power! When we accept God's mercy and ask Jesus into our life, we can tap into God's unlimited power and authority. This means we can help people, even when it's hard. We can pray for people to be miraculously healed. We can change our attitudes from angry to happy. How awesome is it that God wants to do all of that with us?

Some questions to discuss as a family:

Have you accepted God's mercy and Jesus into your life? Why or why not?

What are some things you can pray and ask God and the Holy Spirit to help you do today?

DRAW A PICTURE OF WHAT YOU LEARNED TODAY



Family Challenge

Practice what you have learned this week! Sit down as a family and discuss the sort of things you can do to be fully alive in God's mercy. There are a few ideas below to help you get started.

- Do a prayer walk through your house together. Pray over each room as a family.
- Ask for a fresh filling of God's Holy Spirit. Have a family prayer time and pray that the Holy Spirit would dwell in your hearts.
- Spend some of your free time this week doing acts of kindness for others. You could bake someone cookies, shovel the neighbour's walk or do a sibling's chore for him/her!
- Ask God what He loves about you! Read the Bible, pray and ask your family what God created in you that's special. Write those things down and put it somewhere you'll see it regularly.

Before and After

In the boxes below, draw what you think life looks like before and after a person accepts God's mercy and asks Jesus into his/her life. Think about going from dead to alive, enslaved (trapped) and condemned (punished) to free. What might that look like?

We love to see your artwork; send in your pictures to kids@heartlandalliance.ca or tag us on social media!

Before

After

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