

Series: *God of this City – Week Three*

# ***Known for our Good Works***

*Ephesians 2:8-10*

**Introduction:** The early church was known primarily for its radical acts of service in a culture where service was very rare. The source of this service was a whole new identity. Jesus has personally designed us to be instruments of his good works that he is doing in this world. This morning I want to give you a basic theology of good works.

## **1. *FIRST QUESTION – What is God’s plan for good works? Ephesians 2:8-10***

- A. *In salvation* – Good works play no role whatsoever in obtaining eternal life. 2:8-9
- B. *After salvation* – Good works should describe the pattern of our life in Christ. 2:10
- C. *In practice* – Walking in good works presupposes two things.
- D. *In history* – How did the early church think about good works?
- E. *Today* – Is it possible that we’ve forgotten the passion of the early church?

## **2. *SECOND QUESTION – What is the point of doing good works?***

- A. The wrong approach – “Good works just for the sake of good works.”
- B. One right approach – We do good works as an expression of God’s common grace.
- C. Another right approach – Good works increase our opportunities to share the gospel.

## **3. *THIRD QUESTION – How do I begin? What tools has God given us so that we can do good works?***

- A. He’s given us financial resources. 1 Timothy 6:18
- B. He’s given us spiritual gifts. 1 Peter 4:10
- C. He’s given us the encouragement of fellow Christians. Hebrews 10:24
- D. He’s given us his word. 2 Timothy 3:16
- E. He’s given us people who can equip us and disciple us. Ephesians 4:11-12