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I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.
Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

The journey to a new and improved life

1. Where were we?

- You were _____

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins.
Ephesians 2:1 (NIV)

But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means.
1 Corinthians 2:14 (NLT)

- You were _____

*...in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air... **Ephesians 2:2^a (NIV)***

*Lord, you always give me justice when I bring a case before you. So let me bring you this complaint: Why are the wicked so prosperous? Why are evil people so happy? **Jeremiah 12:1 (NLT)***

- You were _____

*...the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. **Ephesians 2:2^p-3 (NIV)***

*As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins... **Ephesians 2:1 (NIV)***

- You were _____

*Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. **Ephesians 2:3^b (NIV)***
*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge... **Proverbs 1:7 (NIV)***
*For the wages of sin is death... **Romans 6:23 (NIV)***
*It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God!
Hebrews 10:31 (TEV)*

2. Where are we now?

*But God... **Ephesians 2:4 (NKJV)***

*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 6:23 (NIV)***

*But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 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. **Ephesians 2:4-9 (NIV)***

- Because of Jesus we are _____

- Because of God's mercy we are _____

- Because of God's grace we are _____

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

3. Where are we going?

*For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. **Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)***

Philippians 1:6 (NLT) ⁶ I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

The journey to a new and improved life

1. Where were we?

- **You were dead**

Ephesians 2:1 (NIV) ¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

1 Corinthians 2:14 (NLT) ¹⁴But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means.

- **You were deceived**

Ephesians 2:2^a (NIV) ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air,

Jeremiah 12:1 (NLT) ¹LORD, you always give me justice when I bring a case before you. So let me bring you this complaint: Why are the wicked so prosperous? Why are evil people so happy?

- **You were disobedient**

Ephesians 2:2^b-3 (NIV) ...the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts.

Ephesians 2:1 (NIV) ¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

- **You were doomed**

Ephesians 2:3^b (NIV) Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

Proverbs 1:7 (NIV) ⁷The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge...

Romans 6:23 (NIV) ²³For the wages of sin is death...

Hebrews 10:31 (TEV) ³¹It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God!

2. Where are we now?

Ephesians 2:4 (NKJV) ⁴But God...

Romans 6:23 (NIV) ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 2:4 - 9 (NIV) ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

- **Because of Jesus we are loved**

- **Because of God's mercy we are alive**

- **Because of God's grace we are saved**

⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast.

3. Where are we going?

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) ¹⁰For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.