

# Family Worship Guide

Sunday, June 19, 2016

## **Ephesians 2:11-22**

### **“Being Unified in Christ”**

<sup>11</sup> Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “Uncircumcision” by the so-called “Circumcision,” *which is* performed in the flesh by human hands— <sup>12</sup> *remember* that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For He Himself is our peace, who made both *groups into* one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, <sup>15</sup> by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, *which is* the Law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, *thus* establishing peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. <sup>17</sup> And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup> for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household, <sup>20</sup> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

### **QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSATION**

#### **Getting Started**

- From where did our ancestors emigrate? What did their citizenship mean to them?

#### **Going Deeper**

- What “dividing wall” in our world would you most like to see come down?
- Before Jesus came, what problems did the Gentiles face (vv. 11-12)?
- How do you think the practicing Jews felt when these Gentiles started coming to their church, but didn’t want to adopt the Jewish custom of circumcision?
- How has Christ destroyed hostility and made peace possible for all people?

#### **Bringing it Home**

- If Paul wrote a letter to Green Hill Baptist today, what stand would he take on issues that threaten to tear the church apart?
- In what relationships of ours do we need Christ to remove barriers and do a work of reconciliation?<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Questions taken from *Serendipity Bible for Groups*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998), 1626.