

LIFE GROUP 5 (FALL 25)

Mission: To foster Christ-centered engagement in the life of our congregation.

Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-22

Open It

Build Community 1

Who has been the most influential person in your life?

5-10 Min.

What is one lesson from your parents or family that has stuck with you?

Build Community 2

If you had a free day with no responsibilities, how would you spend it? What's one thing on your "bucket list"?

5-10 Min

Adoration

Finish this statement: Jesus is the answer to a broken world. He is capable of...

5 Min

Nurture 1

Read Ephesians 2:11-22

10-15 Min.

Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— ¹²remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure,

being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Context

In the first half of chapter 2, Paul describes how individuals are reconciled to God by grace through faith. In this section, he moves to a corporate view: Jews and Gentiles (two groups once divided) are now made one family in Christ. The dividing wall of hostility is torn down, and the church is described as God's new temple, His dwelling place.

TIME TO DISCUSS:

Observation Questions (What does the text say?)

1. What words or phrases does Paul use to describe the Gentiles' condition before Christ (vs. 11–12)? How does Paul describe the work of Christ in vs. 13–16?
2. What does Paul mean by the “dividing wall of hostility”?
3. What metaphors does Paul use in vs. 19–22 to describe the church?

Interpretation Questions (What does it mean?)

4. Why do you think Paul urges the Gentiles to “remember” their former state?
5. How does the concept of “one new humanity” challenge divisions within the church?
6. Why is it important that Paul describes the church as a temple built together, not just individual believers?

Application Questions (How does it apply?)

7. What divisions exist in the church or in society today that Christ's peace could heal?
8. How do you personally experience being a member of God's household?
9. In what ways can your small group/church model being a united “temple” where God dwells?
10. How can remembering your life before Christ (like Paul urges the Gentiles) increase gratitude and humility in your faith journey?

Nurture 2

What can we pray for in your life?

5-10 Min

Additional information

Schedule a time and place to meet again.