

## **Ephesians Chapter 2**

In chapter 2, Paul tells the Ephesian Christians: You were once spiritually alienated from God; but now, because of God's grace, you have been spiritually united with him. As Gentiles, you were once spiritually alienated from Israel, but now you have been spiritually united with them into a living spiritual temple of God.

### **Session Goal:**

- To help us realize that the Gospel makes way for a new multi-ethnic family of God
- This series should help transforming how we live as a new humanity unified in love
- Christ Died to set ALL free and to bring US together as One

### **Key Scripture: Read verses 8-16.**

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handywork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

### **Jew and Gentile Reconciled Through Christ**

<sup>11</sup> Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)— <sup>12</sup> remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

<sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup> by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

### **As you watch the video, think about these questions:**

- As you reflect on the sermon this week, how did the Holy Spirit speak to your heart?
- What did we learn about God from Ephesians Chapter 2?
- What personal implications did the sermon have for you?

### **Group Discussion Questions:**

- As you read these verses above, what did you learn about yourselves? What is the difference between your life in Christ and your life before Christ?

- Was there a verse/passage that jumped out to you? Share why the verse or passage struck you
- What is grace? How would you describe it to someone with no relationship with God?
- What does verse 10 tell us about our purpose and what are the implications?
- How would you describe what the grace of God means for you in your own life?
- What does it mean to be reconciled, and what is the means of our reconciliation with others?

**Conclusion:** Paul taught the Saints in Ephesus that all sinners could be saved by God's grace and that Jews and Gentiles had become one in the household of God. Use this week to think about how you are helping to unify the body of Christ. Think of ways you can become a part of the bridge that brings together and helps to diminish the gap.

Final thought: How does our identity in Christ begin to heal all division in the church?