

¹⁴ For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. ¹⁵ He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. ¹⁶ Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.

Ephesians 2:14-16

Discussion/Journal Questions

Share a hobby or activity that you find enjoyable and life-giving.

Have two or three people read Ephesians 2:14-16 out loud slowly. After some time of reflection, ask each other what words, phrases, or ideas stand out to everyone. What questions come to mind as you meditate on this scripture?

In the sermon, Pastor John mentioned some of the ways we build walls to divide people. What were they, and what are some others you can imagine?

How does Jesus break down the wall of hostility separating Jews and gentiles?

How does Jesus break down the other walls we build to divide people from each other?

How does trusting in our identity in Christ empower us to experience both internal and external peace?

Read John 20:19-23. What do you notice about the transition of the disciples from verse 19 to verse 20? What made the difference?

What role does the Holy Spirit play in leading us to peace?

Are there any areas of your life that need peace? How can you group pray for you?