

Running the Race Well

- Ephesians 2:19–22
- “Being Built Together for God’s Dwelling”



Context: The Letter to Ephesians

- Written by Paul (AD 60–64) to the church in Ephesus.
- Ephesus: major city of trade & pagan worship (Temple of Artemis).
- Church made up of Jews & Gentiles.
- Themes: Unity & Spiritual Growth.
- Paul reminds believers to live out their new identity in Christ.

Ephesians 2:19–22 (NKJV)

“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”

Church Identity #1 – We Belong to God's Family

- No longer strangers or foreigners
- We are fellow citizens (Kingdom of God)
- We are saints (set apart)
- We are members of God's household (family)
- Church = not an institution first, but a family born through faith in Christ.

Church Identity #2 – We Are Extensions of the Kingdom With Christ as Our Cornerstone

- Foundation - firm base
- Built on apostles (sent ones)
- Built on prophets (speaking on behalf of God)
- Chief Cornerstone - Jesus Christ - sets direction & unity
- Without Christ, the Church loses direction and cohesion

Church Identity #3 – God Is Building His Church as His Dwelling

- Being fitted together – as a whole
 - Grows - ongoing process
 - Holy – set apart
 - Temple – inner dwelling place for God
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- God is fitting us together
 - God = Master Builder
 - Christ = Cornerstone
 - Believers = Living stones

Our Identity as the Church

- We Belong to God's Family
- We Are Extensions of the Kingdom with Christ as our Cornerstone
- We Are Being Built Together as God's Dwelling Place
- Ephesians 2:19–22