

My hope is that you had some good new things to add to your prayers this week from the last question on last week's study sheet. Paul uses a therefore, at the beginning of his next teaching. Therefore, means as he starts this section all he says hinges on what he has said before.

1. Can you remember from previous classes, what opinion did the Jews have of themselves? _____

How did they view the Gentiles? _____

2. If you have access to the New Living Translation read 2:11-12. (these verses are a little easier to understand in that translation.) What were Gentiles excluded from? _____

What caused this exclusion? _____

How did they live in this world? _____

3. What caused this disconnect to be eliminated? (2:13) _____

What was the result? (2:14) _____

Personalize this in your life. Was there ever a time you felt a disconnect and someone intervened on your behalf? How did you feel before this happened? _____

How did you feel after this happened? _____

4. What had the covenant law practiced by the Jews done to those who were not part of their faith? _____

What obstacles might prevent righteous Jews from dismantling barriers to outsiders? _____

Let's make this real. What obstacles keep us from crossing borders of our own making to connect with those different from us? _____

5. Define what the term "enmity" means. _____

Those laws and commandments contained in the ordinances were the "enmity" separating men. So often men do not have the desire nor knowledge to stop the enmity. Use verse 14 (first part) 15 (last part) Who does stop it and how does He do it? _____

6. What is the final result? (2:16) _____

As you wrote that answer, what does it mean to you? _____

7. What do we finally possess? (2:16-18) _____

Brush off the cobwebs and think about how God accomplished this. It wasn't easy, and it was very costly.

What made the above changes possible for our new identity? _____

8. What now unites Jew and Gentiles? (v.19) _____

Foundational security due to (v.20) _____

Being built together into (v. 22) _____

So hated to stop right here, but we are not yet done with digesting this section. More next week!!