

EPHESIANS

The Space Between Us

Main Scripture: Ephesians 2:19-22

You are no longer excluded
(Eph 2:12)

Now you belong

- Fellow citizens with God's people
- Members of God's household
- A temple

How do we live it?

- Submit to the Lordship of Jesus

Heartland Kids Weekend Bulletin

November 28 & 29, 2020

Ephesians 2:19-22

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in 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.



You are no longer excluded

- Did you know you're an alien? How does it feel to say that? When we think of aliens we think of strange looking creatures. While you don't look like an alien, our Bible verse this week tells us that without God, our spirits are separated from their home with Him. Without God, we are aliens.
- In verse 19, Paul tells us we don't need to be aliens anymore and we can be close to God!

Now you belong

- Paul tells us we belong to God in a way we never could before. We are one of God's citizens and we belong in God's country.
- Even more exciting is that we belong because we are part of God's family! We can talk and listen to God, just like we do (or should do) with our parents. God loves us!
- The last thing Paul calls us, is a temple (verse 21). He tells us we all fit together perfectly and are shaped by something powerful, God's gospel. So, when you say you are a Christian you are saying God is the most important thing in your life, even more important than your family and friends.

How do we live it?

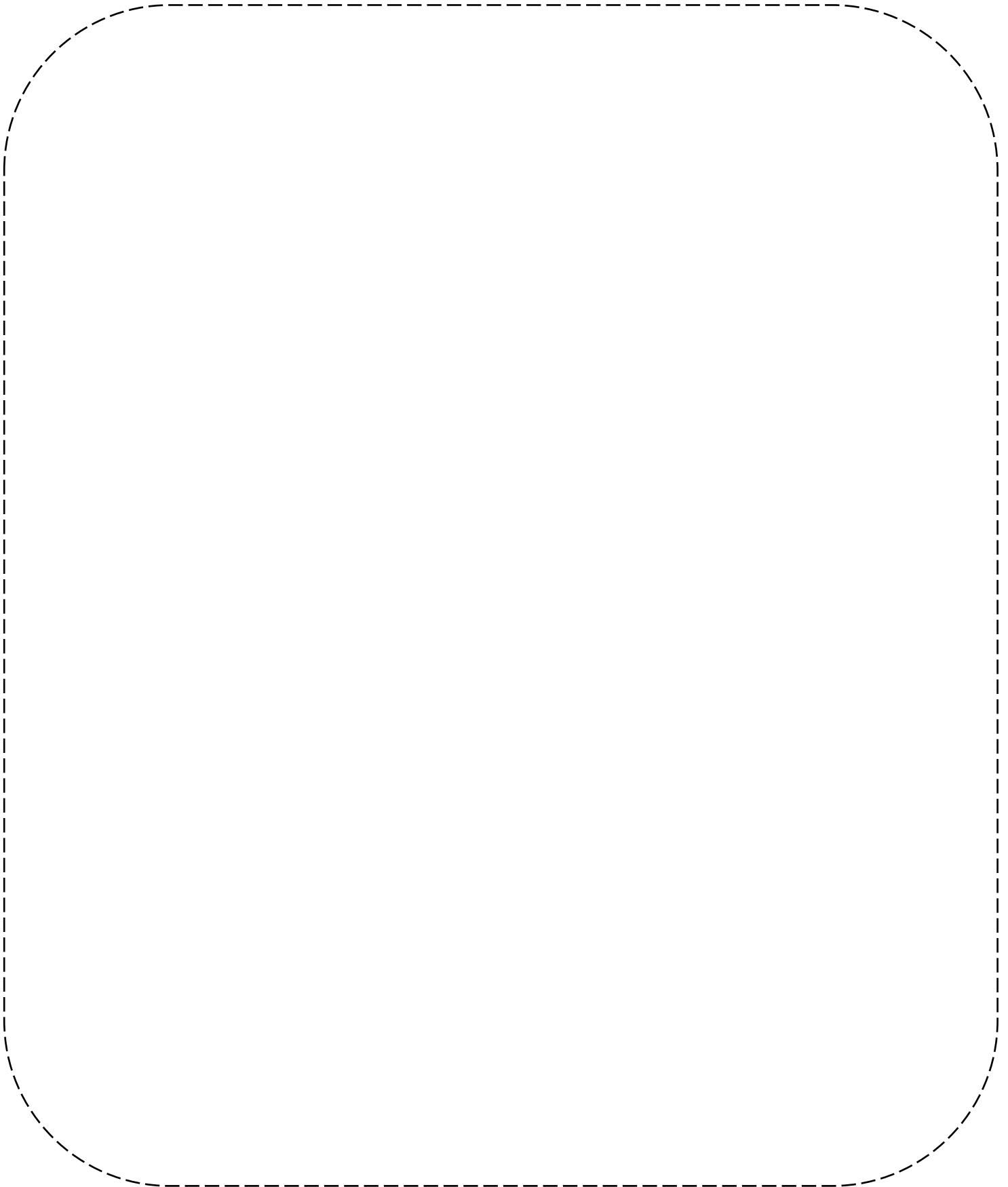
- Our job as Christians is to submit to the **Lordship of Jesus**. That means, we should live like Jesus lived and follow God's commands.

Some questions to discuss as a family:

Do we as a family submit to the **Lordship of Jesus**? (If you have younger kids, discuss what it means to submit.)

How could we work to submit together?

Draw a picture of what you learned today.



Family Challenge

Christmas is coming! Spend time this week decorating your house for Christmas. For some extra family fun, try making some of your own ornaments this year! There are a few ideas below to help you get started.

After you have decorated, sit as a family and discuss the reason for the season. You can talk about how you feel being a child of God, being His citizen and how you plan on showing others God's love this Christmas season.

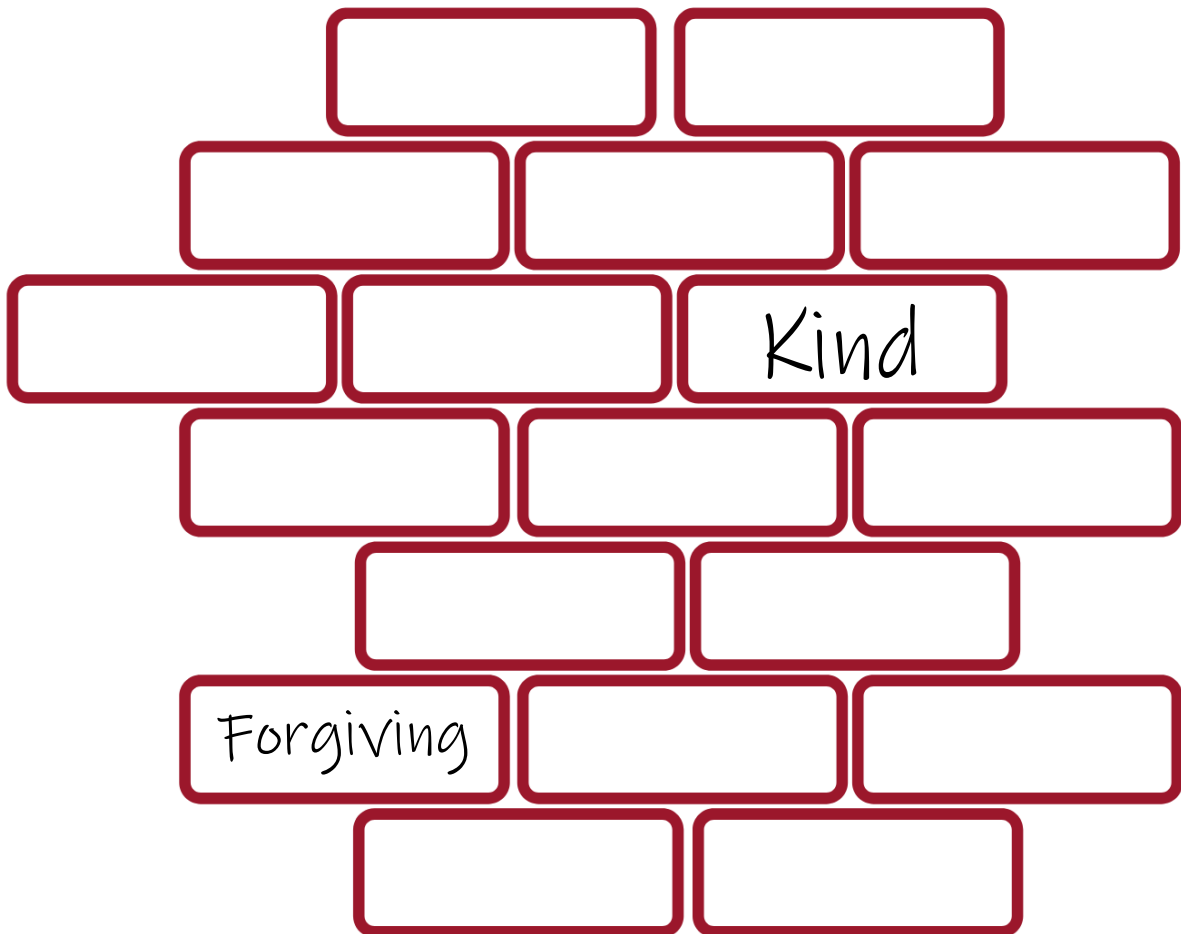
Homemade Ornaments

- String popcorn and cranberries together to make garland.
- Collect pinecones and other foliage from outside, let them dry and hang them on the tree.
- Make salt dough ornament cookies. Decorate them with colourful markers or paint and maybe even some glitter.

God's Temple

Ephesians tells us that we are God's temple. We should fit and work to stand together like a brick building. Below is the beginning of a brick wall. Fill in each piece with a word that describes God. Once you've filled each brick in, draw your own until the temple wall is built!

Put your picture up somewhere you'll see it often to help remind you to act out the words you've listed.



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The Small Group Sermon Study
Ephesians 2:19-22



Opening Prayer: Father, in Jesus' name, through the Holy Spirit, come and speak to us, teach us and transform us as we read, discuss and reflect on Your word.

1. Big Picture: What did you like or appreciate about this message? What challenged you in this message?
2. Read the key passage(s) of Scripture from the message and review the points from the sermon notes, then answer the following questions:
 - a. What does this tell us about God (Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit)? What do we learn about how He feels, what actions He takes, etc.?
 - b. What does this tell us about those who follow Jesus (individually and/or the church) and/or those who don't?
 - c. How do you experience the three images of belonging in our small group? How could we grow in experiencing them more?
3. What are some ways we could respond to this passage and sermon as a small group, especially in the light of living in a COVID-impacted world right now?

Silently re-read the key Scripture(s) from the message, asking the Holy Spirit to speak to you.

4. What emotions does this passage or key theme stir up in you?
5. What do you need to surrender to Jesus? How will you respond to what God is showing you?
6. What verse, phrase or word do you need to take with you this week? How will you act on what you've heard?

Prayer: Spend time praying for one another (that we would grow in our love for God and others, that we would be transformed by what God has revealed, that we would be alert and obedient to God, etc.).