

Life Group Questions - *Unity, Equality, and Glory: Part 3* – Ephesians 2:11-22

UNDERSTANDING THE PASSAGE

1. *Main Idea of the Passage:* Be woke to the Gospel.

Outline

1. Woke to Union and Unity (vv. 11-22)
 - A. Woke to our past (vv. 11-12)
 - B. Woke to our present (vv. 13-17)
 - C. Woke to our holy worship (vv. 18-22)
2. Where are we asleep? What's the problem?
3. Implication: Not just tolerance

Interpretation Help

Gospel Centrality

1. Union with Christ leads to racial unity and equality.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Warming Up

1. In what ways have you felt the Spirit's work of unity over the last several weeks? Any testimonies of the Lord's work in this area?

Letting the Text Shape our Framework

1. Woke to Union and Unity (vv. 11-22)
 - A. Woke to our past (vv. 11-12)
 - i. Why does understanding our past change everything (key word: "remember")?
 - ii. In what ways have you seen over your life that you have been living in the past rather than the present? What are the consequences of this?
 - B. Woke to our present (vv. 13-17)
 - i. Consider how many times Paul uses the word "peace." What has the peace-creating-grace done?
 - ii. What does the context of 2:1-10 bring to life about peace?
 - iii. What is the operative image Paul uses (vv. 14-16)? How is this essential to living a gospel-centered life? How if not lived out is actually not of Christ?
 - iv. How does this transcend worldly sociological and political attempts at solving the issue of hostility?
 - C. Woke to our holy worship (vv. 18-22)
 - i. Why is understanding Paul's imagery of the temple crucial to understanding unity of the body of Christ?

- ii. How is this not just a “me” thing but and “our” thing?
- iii. How is unity fueled by doxology (i.e. worship)? Even more than that a physical gathering of the household of God?
- iv. In what ways do you expect the Spirit to work as we make room for Him through Gospel unity?
- v. Consider the cultural contracts of our day. In what ways has the evangelical Church lost the attribute of holiness?

Traveling Through the Cross

1. The truth and vision of Eph. 2:11-22 is not merely to tolerate different people groups, but to have a covenant love for each other.

Applying This Passage to our Lives

1. Where are we asleep?
 - A. Church first: Equality and Unity in the Church.
 - i. How can you start with your personal life and begin building earnest and prayerful Christian friendships with people of other races who share in Jesus with you?
 - B. Church for the Common Good: Equal access and consistent refereeing in the public square.
 - i. How can you use your sphere of influence to have compassion toward brokenness in the world?
2. Implication: Not just tolerance (see *Traveling Through the Cross*, above).
 - A. Consider reading through as a life group George Yancey’s book, *Beyond Racial Gridlock*. Becoming more aware of the secular models that cannot solve the issue and approaching it instead with the gospel is the answer. This book helps the church gain categories and language to pursue it.
 - B. Pray that we would not have diversity for diversity sake, but diversity because of:
 - i. Union with Christ = Diversity flowing from Unity
 - ii. Doxology = Shared delight, satisfaction, and treasuring of Christ
 - iii. The Holy Presence of God = Diversity with the goal of the glory of God’s holiness