

Teaching Outline

Series: God's Holy People United

Eph 2:11-12 (NIV)

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)-- 12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

Life without God is to be without hope.

13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Walls keep people away!

14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

_____ with God is followed by _____
within the family!

NLT Galatians 3:28 There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female. For you are all Christians-- you are one in Christ Jesus.

We choose _____ over _____ .

NLT John 17:20-21 "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me because of their testimony. 21 My prayer for all of them is that they will be one, just as you and I are one, Father-- that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us, and the world will believe you sent me.

If God's _____ are believable... God's _____ is believable!

17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

The Triune God!

19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

There are no 2nd class members in God's family/kingdom!

21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

What God has joined _____, let's _____ tear apart.

Next Steps:

- **For reflection this week:** Am I hanging onto differences or choosing peace and unity?

Closing Song: United, by Dan Loewen