

Go Forth in Unity One in Christ

Sunday, October 3, 2021

Ephesians 2: 12-20 NIV

¹²remember 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. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. ¹⁹Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

1. Unity in God's Kingdom

Ephesians 2:19 Fellow citizens with God's people

Colossians 1: 13-14 He has rescued us and brought us into the Kingdom of His Son He loves.

Romans 8: 16-17 The Spirit testifies we are God's children.

2. Unity in the Body

Ephesians 4: 4-6 There is one body and one Spirit.

Galatians 3: 26-28 You are all children of God through faith in Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:27 You are the body of Christ; each one of you a part of it.

3. Unity Through Love

Psalms 133:1 How good and pleasant when God's people live in unity!

Ephesians 4:2-3 Bear with one another in love, keep the unity of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 13:13 Three things last forever- faith, hope and love.

Conclusion: Through Christ, we are no longer strangers, but are fellow citizens with God's people, rescued and brought into the Kingdom of God's Son, a Kingdom of peace. A Kingdom that unites all who believe in Jesus through the Holy Spirit who dwells in each of us. Let us live then according to the Spirit who always acts in unity to God's will.

LIFE GROUP LESSON One in Christ

Week of October 3rd – October 9, 2021

Ice Breaker: How would you define unity?

Read Ephesians 2: 12-20.

1. What was our state prior to accepting Christ as our Savior? (v.12)
2. What changed for us as we believed? (v.13)
3. How were we brought near to God? (v.13) Through what?
4. Who is Christ to us? (v.14) Do you see Him as such?
5. What did Christ destroy with the shedding of His blood? (v. 14)
6. What was the purpose for Jesus' sacrifice? (vs. 15-16)
7. What did Jesus put to death? (v.16)
8. What did Jesus preach? To whom? (v. 17)
9. What gift do we gain through Christ? (18)
10. Notice the title given to God in v. 18. Who is He to us? What does this tell you about the kind of relationship He desires? What does this tell you about who we are to one another?
11. What are we members of as we believe? (v.19) Do you receive this?
12. What/Whom is the foundation of this household we belong to? (v.20)
13. What is of utmost importance for us to understand in this Scripture?
14. What is the price paid for us to enter God's kingdom and become a member of His household?
15. Do we get to choose who else is part of this kingdom? Who decides?
16. Read Ephesians 4: 4-6, Galatians 3: 26-28 and 1 Corinthians 12:27. What are we taught? How are we connected?
17. Do we need one another to live in the fullness of Christ?
18. Read Psalm 133:1 What delights our Father? What displeases Him then?
19. Read 1 Corinthians 13: 11-13. How do these truths connect to God's command to keep the unity of the Spirit? What is He telling us to focus on? What will always lead to unity of the Spirit?
20. What does it mean for you personally to be one with Christ? What does it mean for all God's children to be one with Christ?

Point to ponder: As followers of Christ, we are no longer living for self. We live with Christ in us. Jesus Christ ushered in a Kingdom of Peace-one that we are now heirs of. We uphold His Kingdom and honor His sacrifice when we strive for unity in the Spirit with God's people through the bond of Peace.