

# One in Christ - Ephesians 2:11-22

## Topics:

Church, Citizenship, God, Good News, Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Law, Peace, Reconciliation, Separation

## Open It Questions

1. When was a time you felt deprived?

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2. What people have you known whose upbringing and family connections provided them with certain advantages?

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## Explore It Questions

3. What did Paul command the Ephesians to remember? (2:11)

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4. Why was being uncircumcised a desperate problem for the Gentiles? (2:11-12)

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5. How did Christ's work on the cross transform the condition of the Gentiles? (2:13)

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6. Who brought peace to Jewish and Gentile believers? (2:14)

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7. Why did Christ end the hostility between Jews and Gentiles? (2:14-16)

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8. How did the enmity between Jews and Gentiles come to an end? (2:15-16)

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9. What is the result of believing the message of Christ? (2:17-18)

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**A TEMPLE FOR THE LORD / 2:19-22**

All believers are citizens of God's Kingdom and members of his household. Many barriers divide us from other Christians: age, appearance, intelligence, political persuasion, economic status, race, theological perspective. One of the surest ways to stifle Christ's love is to be friendly only with those people who are similar to us. Fortunately, Christ has knocked down the barriers and has placed all believers into one family. His cross should be the focus of our unity. The Holy Spirit helps us look beyond the barriers to the unity we are called to enjoy. People can see that God is love and that Christ is Lord as we live in harmony with each other and in accordance with what God says in his Word.

10. In Christ, how did the Gentiles achieve new spiritual and social status? (2:19)

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11. On what foundation were the Ephesian believers built?  
(2:20)

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12. How was Christ part of the foundation? (2:20)

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13. How was the church described as living and growing?  
(2:21)

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14. How were the Ephesians becoming part of God's dwelling?  
(2:22)

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15. How did God live in the Ephesian Christians? (2:22)

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**Get It Questions**

16. How does the gospel break down religious and social barriers?

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17. Why is it that many churches maintain a dividing wall that keeps out other social and ethnic groups?

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18. How does your church treat foreigners and aliens?

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19. How should churches treat foreigners and aliens?

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20. If Paul were speaking to your congregation about reconciliation, would his words be ones of praise or disappointment?

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21. In Christ, what is every Christian's relationship to other Christians?

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22. What is your role in helping your congregation show unity in Christ?

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## Apply It Questions

23. How can you show God's love to an "outsider" this week?

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24. To what groups or individuals can you extend the peace of Christ this week? How?

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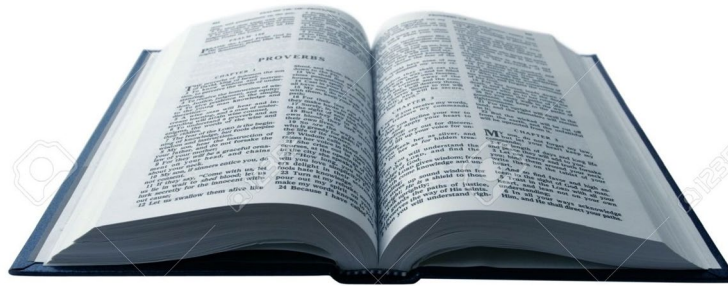
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Adult Questions for LESSON Maker.



# *Welcome to Bible Study*



New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
Southfield, Michigan

## **Facilitators**

Dr. David L. Roberson, Pastor  
Rev. Valerie L. Crump, MAPT/CF, CBC  
Special Assistant to the Pastor

# Prayer Requests



New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
Rev. Dr. David L. Roberson, Pastor  
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Southfield, Michigan

# Oneness and Peace in Christ Ephesians 2:11-22

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
Southfield, MI 48033

## Facilitators

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1 in Christ

- Church
- Citizenship
- God
- Good News
- Holy Spirit

# Topics

## “Oneness and Peace in Christ” Ephesians 2:11-22

- Jesus Christ
- Law
- Peace
- Reconciliation
- Separation

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

### Open It Questions<sup>2</sup>

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

### Open It Questions

1. When was a time you felt deprived?

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

### Open It Questions

2. What people have you known whose upbringing and family connections provided them with certain advantages?

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

**Scripture Reading**  
**(NKJV)**



# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-13

### **Brought Near by His Blood**

<sup>11</sup> Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—<sup>12</sup> that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **(2:11-13 NKJV)**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:14-18

### Christ Our Peace

<sup>14</sup> For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,

<sup>15</sup> having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace,

<sup>16</sup> and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

<sup>17</sup> And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near.

<sup>18</sup> For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

**(2:14-18 NKJV)**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:19-22

### **Christ Our Cornerstone**

<sup>19</sup> Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

<sup>20</sup> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*,  
<sup>21</sup> in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,

<sup>22</sup> in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. **(2:19-22 NKJV)**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

### Introduction

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

### Introduction

Christ Jesus set individuals free from sin and death by making them alive through faith in him ([2:1-10](#)), but there is more to the story. Jesus saved individuals of all races and backgrounds in order to bring them into unity as his body, his church.

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

### Introduction

There existed a huge gulf between Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews). God was going to bring these two distinct groups together by drawing believers in Christ from among the Jews *and* from among the Gentiles.

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

**Explore It Questions**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11

### Commanded to Remember

#### Explore It Questions

3. What did Paul command the Ephesians to remember?  
([2:11](#))



# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11

### Commanded to Remember

#### Explore It Questions

“Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—”  
**(2:11 NKJV).**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-12

### Uncircumcision: A Desperate Problem

#### Explore It Questions

4. Why was being uncircumcised a desperate problem for the Gentiles? ([2:11-12](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-12

### Uncircumcision: A Desperate Problem

#### Explore It Questions

“Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—(2:11)

--that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world” (2:12).

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:13

### Christ's Work Transforms

#### Explore It Questions

5. How did Christ's work on the cross transform [change] the condition of the Gentiles?  
([2:13](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:13

### Christ's Work Transforms

#### Explore It Questions

“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ” (2:13).

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:14

### The Provider of Peace

#### Explore It Questions

6. Who brought peace to Jewish and Gentile believers? ([2:14](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:14

### The Provider of Peace

#### Explore It Questions

“For He Himself [Jesus] is our peace, who has made both [Jew and Gentile believers] one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,” **(2:14)**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:14-16

### Why Christ Ended Hostility

#### Explore It Questions

7. Why did Christ end the hostility between Jews and Gentiles?  
([2:14-16](#))



# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:14-16

### Why Christ Ended Hostility

#### Explore It Questions

<sup>14</sup> For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us.

<sup>15</sup> He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups.

<sup>16</sup> Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.

**(2:14-16 AMPC)**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:16

### How Christ Ended Hostility

#### Explore It Questions

8. How did the enmity between Jews and Gentiles come to an end? ([2:16](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:16

### How Christ Ended Hostility

#### Explore It Questions

“...and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity” (2:16).

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:17-18

### Believing the Message of Christ

#### Explore It Questions

9. What is the result of believing the message of Christ? ([2:17-18](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:17-18

### Believing the Message of Christ

#### Explore It Questions

<sup>17</sup>And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near.

<sup>18</sup>For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. **(2:17-18 NKJV).**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:19-22

### A TEMPLE FOR THE LORD

All believers are citizens of God's Kingdom and members of his household. Many barriers divide us from other Christians: age, appearance, intelligence, political persuasion, economic status, race, theological perspective. One of the surest ways to stifle Christ's love is to be friendly only with those people who are similar to us. Fortunately, Christ has knocked down the barriers and has placed all believers into one family. His cross should be the focus of our unity. The Holy Spirit helps us look beyond the barriers to the unity we are called to enjoy. People can see that God is love and that Christ is Lord as we live in harmony with each other and in accordance with what God says in his Word.

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:19

### New Spiritual and Social Status

#### Explore It Questions

10. In Christ, how did the Gentiles achieve new spiritual and social status? ([2:19](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:19

### New Spiritual and Social Status

#### Explore It Questions

“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,...” **(2:19)**



# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:20

### Ephesian Believers Foundation

#### Explore It Questions

11. On what foundation were the Ephesian believers built?  
([2:20](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:20

### Ephesian Believers Foundation

#### Explore It Questions

“...having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, ... ” (2:20)

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:20

### Christ as the Believers Foundation

#### Explore It Questions

12. How was Christ part of the foundation? ([2:20](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:20

### Christ as the Believers Foundation

#### Explore It Questions

“...having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,...”  
**(2:20)**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:21

### The Living and Growing Church

#### Explore It Questions

13. How was the church described as living and growing? ([2:21](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:21

### The Living and Growing Church

#### Explore It Questions

“...in whom [Jesus] the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,” **(2:21)**

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:22

### Becoming Part of God's Dwelling

#### Explore It Questions

14. How were the Ephesians becoming part of God's dwelling? ([2:22](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:22

### Becoming Part of God's Dwelling

#### Explore It Questions

“...in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit” (2:22).



# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:22

### God in the Ephesian Christians

#### Explore It Questions

15. How did God live in the Ephesian Christians? ([2:22](#))

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:22

### God in the Ephesian Christians

#### Explore It Questions

“...in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit” (2:22).

# Oneness and Peace in Christ

## Ephesians 2:11-22

**Get It and Apply It Questions**  
**16-24**  
**(See Participant Handout)**

# NEXT LESSON

## “Paul the Preacher to the Gentiles”

*The Mystery*

REVEALED

EPHESIANS 3:1-13

EPHESIANS 3:1-13