

Here's what Ephesians 2:11-18 teaches . . .

**1. Before Christ, non Jewish peoples were \_\_\_\_\_ (2:11-12)**

**Non-Jews / Gentiles / "you"**

uncircumcision

separated from Christ

alienated from Israel

strangers to the covenants

hopeless

without God

**Jews / Israel**

circumcision

connected to Christ

belonging to Israel

recipients of the covenants

hopeful

knowing God

**2. By and because of Christ, all peoples are being**

\_\_\_\_\_ (2:13-18)

- Jesus broke down the wall of \_\_\_\_\_ between Jews and all peoples. (2:14)
- Jesus abolished the \_\_\_\_\_ .(2:15)
- Jesus united all people who trust Him into a \_\_\_\_\_. (2:16)
- Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to God all people who trust Him. (2:17)
- Through Jesus, all people have an equal and shared \_\_\_\_\_ to God the Father in one Spirit. (2:18)

United

**He Himself is Our Peace**

Ephesians 2:11-18

Sunday, November 24, 2019

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*Ephesians 2:11-18 is strange to hearers of the 21st Century and yet this passage contains transforming truth for today's divided world . . .*

**If we're going to understand Ephesians 2:11-18, we need to understand the BIG story of the Bible . . .**

- God creates humankind to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Him forever, but humankind \_\_\_\_\_ and sin breaks the world. (Gen 1-3)
- Sin and the resulting brokenness spreads and goes crazy in the world as humankind \_\_\_\_\_ from God. (Genesis 4-11)
- God \_\_\_\_\_ Israel to \_\_\_\_\_ Israel to bring light and salvation to \_\_\_\_\_. (Geneses 12 to the Gospels)
- Throughout the centuries, sometimes Israel \_\_\_\_\_ and gives up their unique identity as God's people to become like the other peoples, and so fails in their God-given mission.
- Throughout the centuries, sometimes Israel becomes \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and so fails in their God-given mission.
- Ephesians 2, addressed to non-Jewish Christ-followers, is about how \_\_\_\_\_ came into this messy brokenness to accomplish the mission of God to bring salvation to \_\_\_\_\_ everywhere.

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United

**NEXT WEEK**  
**A New Family of God**  
Ephesians 2:11-18



**He Himself is Our Peace**  
Ephesians 2:11-18  
Sunday, November 24, 2019

*Growth Groups are the glue which holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at [gracecentralcoast.org](http://gracecentralcoast.org).*

*This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody together our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.*

### Connecting Together

Growth Group time is family time! Take time to share your Thanksgiving plans. What is your favorite part of the traditional thanksgiving meal?

### Digging into God's Word & the Message Together

1. How did you come under God's Word in the message this week? How did God speak to you this week? What truth did you need to hear again or for the first time in this message?
2. Ask two readers to split the reading of Ephesians 2:11-18. Structurally, 2:11-18 is similar to 2:1-10. What are the similarities? Where and what is the turning point in each section? How is the emphasis different in each section?
3. Without looking at the notes, together can you retell the Bible's BIG story leading up the truth's taught in Ephesians 2:11-18?

4. What are ways that Grace Central Coast is effectively exhibiting the diverse unity of the Gospel? What are ways that we are not? How can we keep pursuing and growing in the diverse unity of the Gospel? What does that look like practically?
5. **Your Growth Group as a Family:** Explore how those in your group are different than one another. Which two people across your group are the most different and why? How do the differences create a strain in your group? How do these differences bless and strengthen your group? How might you showcase the unity of your diverse group in and to a divided world?
6. **Your Growth Group as a Servant/Missionary:** What are the ways that people are different from one another today? Today it's so easy for us as God's people to fall into the sins of Israel by either compromising or pridefully isolating. By following Jesus, how can we practically cross social barriers to radically love, serve and reach those who are different than us?

### Praying Together

- Give thanks and praise for the diverse unity of your group.
- Pray for a deeper appreciation of the unique differences of those in your group AND also a growing unity among your group.
- Pray that Grace Central Coast might be ever more fully committed to Jesus' mission to seek and save the lost.
- Pray for group needs.