

1 Review

Question 1.1 Who talked to their parents about how God gave them direction in their lives?

Question 1.2 Who studied this week's passage? What did you learn?

2 This week:

ONE IN CHRIST EPH 2:11-22.

<http://studentlifebiblestudy.com/>

Additional background Rom 10:11-13; Gal 3:28-29; 1Pet 2:4-8

This year's theme is "Community." This week's passage addresses the question "Who is or can be a part of the community, and why?"

Book 1 EPHESIANS

2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature^a and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

¹¹Therefore, 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)— 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 through the blood of Christ.

¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in

^aOr *our flesh*

himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and in this 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 aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²²And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Book 2 ROMANS

10 ¹¹As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." ¹²For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Is 28:16

Joel 2:32.

Book 3 GALATIANS

3 ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Book 4 1 PETER

2 ⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

Is 28:16

⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,^b" ⁸and, "A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

Ps 118:22

Is 8:14.

Book 5 MATTHEW

25 ³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd

^bor *cornerstone*

separates the sheep from the goats. ³³He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

³⁴"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

³⁷"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

⁴⁰"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

⁴¹"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

⁴⁴"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

⁴⁵"He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

⁴⁶"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

Question 2.1 How do people include or exclude other people in their "community?" Which of these methods (if any) are appropriate for Christians and the church?

Question 2.2 Is everyone in God's family? Eph 2:1-4, Jn 8:44, Jn 1:12.

Question 2.3 How were we included in God's family? Eph 2:5-9

Question 2.4 Why were we included in God's family? Eph 2:10

Question 2.5 What does that mean about Christian community? Eph 2:14-18, Rom 10:11-13, Gal 3:28-29.

Question 2.6 Is everyone a part of the Christian community? 1Pet 2:6-8. How does this affect how we live together as a church?

Question 2.7 Should we only care about people in our "community?" Mt 25:31-48

3 This year's memory challenge

Our Bible memory challenge for this year will be Galatians chapter 3. Everyone in our class who can memorize that chapter before I memorize the whole letter will receive \$20. If you memorize the chapter after I memorize the letter, you will get a pass to the movie theater.

Galatians 3 ties in with our lesson theme that we will start in September: we will examine the different covenants that God made with people throughout the Bible. Galatians explains why the Mosaic Covenant (starting with the 10 Commandments) does not do away with the Abrahamic covenant (salvation by faith). It's also a great chapter to know when talking to Muslims. So is chapter 4, which is why I'm going to try to memorize the whole letter.

4 Upcoming topics

July 15 Equipped for Ministry Eph 4:11-16.

July 22 A Unified Church Ph 2:111