

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE:

September 28, 2025

Series: Anchored, a study in Ephesians

Title: Welcome

Passage: Ephesians 2:11-22

Focus: Our focus this week is how Jesus, through his work on the cross, welcomes everyone to be part of his family. The “peace” of Jesus is costly, active and real. Take time this week and make sure you lead your group beyond cliches or just cultural observations and into real application in their own life and situations this week.

READ: Ephesians 2:11-22

- Based on Ephesians 2:11-13, who is Paul writing to? Why does he use the term “gentile”? What five things are true of the Gentiles formerly (and so to of us before Christ)? How would you further describe the five that Paul just briefly touches on? (*leaders note: the five are listed in the verses: (1) separate from Christ (2) excluded from citizenship (3) foreigners of the promises (4) hopeless (5) godless.*)
- What overcomes our condition according to verse 13? How can this verse keep us humble? In what ways is the language here relational?
- Look at Ephesians 2:14-18. How is peace established? Why is peace needed in this passage? How biblically would you define the peace we see here? Where do you see peace needed today? What “cheap versions” of peace are common?
- Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21. How does this passage relate to our passage in Ephesians? Where in your own life do you feel the most lack of peace? How does this passage personally challenge you? What is our role? God’s role?
- Read Ephesians 2:19-22. Based on how this chapter ends, what is the point of the costly peace Jesus purchased on the cross? Notice how communal this passage is. Why is it important to remember God dwells *in his people* and not just *in me*?
- The sermon ended with three possible applications listed below. How is it going? What is a step you are going to take this week that we can ask you about next week to live out what we studied today?
 - Who do you need to welcome?
 - Where will I bring peace this week?
 - Read: *A Creative Minority*: <https://a.co/d/hpowYiZ>