

## **Included in a New Community**

Discussion Guide | September 8, 2019 Ephesians 2:11-3:13

## **Questions for Study and Discussion**

\*\* Before you begin, please read Ephesians 2:11-3:13 (These questions will focus primarily on Ephesians 2:11-22.)

- 1. Share an experience when you were part of a team (or some other group) that unified a diverse group of people around a specific purpose. In what lasting ways did this experience shape you?
- 2. Create a short list of differences that often divide. Why are people often so threatened by difference?
- 3. How can the church be a unified community even as the church is composed of so many different kinds of people (different interests, different ethnicities, different generations, etc.)?
- 4. From Ephesians 2:13, how has Jesus made a new, unified community possible? Explain your answer.
- 5. Look closely at Ephesians 2:14-22. What new realities have been made possible by the work of Jesus? Work to identify at least 4-5 observations.
- 6. Look back at your observations from the previous question. In what practical ways do these things impact life in community?
- 7. Read the following passages of Scripture. What do these verses add to the unity we have because of Jesus?

Galatians 3:28 Ephesians 4:3-6 Revelation 7:9-10

- 8. Why is a unified community so important in our own spiritual growth?
- 9. In what specific ways has Christian community contributed to your own spiritual growth?
- 10. Review Ephesians 2:11-3:13 as a whole one more time. What big take-aways are you leaving with? What is one way the message of this passage will influence your life this coming week?
- **11. Challenge:** Memorize Ephesians 2:13: But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.