

## **Life Group Questions midland**evangelical**free**church midlandfree.org



Date: September 18, 2022

Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-22

Ephesians 2:1-10 sets our context and instructs us about salvation. Verses 1-3 describe the universal need for salvation. Verses 4-9 describes salvation as coming by God's grace through faith. Verse 10 describes one of the purposes for God saving us. **What is that purpose?** 

Have you had any recent divine appointments with good works (good works that God has prepared beforehand for you to do?)

Verse 11 begins with "Therefore." What is the connection between verses 1-10 (especially verse 10) and verses 11-22?

How are Gentile believers described in verse 11? According to Paul, who calls them this? Is this a positive, neutral, or negative evaluation of Circumcision?

In verses 12-13 Paul describes *before* and *after* for Gentile believers using words related to time. What are those words? What are the *befores*? What are the *afters*? What does Paul say caused the change?

Under the Old Covenant, Gentiles had access to salvation, but they were second class citizens—even going as far as calling this an "enmity." What were some ways in which this was true?

Verses 14-18 describe the resolution of the Gentile's second-class status. How does Paul describe this resolution in verse 14? What did Jesus destroy in order to accomplish this?

According to verses 14-18, what constitutes the dividing wall or enmity? (See especially vs. 15)

How many times in verses 14-18 does Paul say the two are made into one?

Verse 19 begins with "So then." What is the significance of this word? What are some synonyms? What is the significance here?

Paul says that Gentiles were "strangers and aliens." What do those words mean/imply? What is the new status conferred upon Gentiles?

What Old Testament imagery does Paul use to describe the building up of the Church?

The scriptures speak of individual believers as being a temple of the Holy Spirit. Is that what these verses are speaking about? What is the significance of this difference? How should this affect how we value the Church? How should this affect how we relate to others in the Church?



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Given the "Therefore" in verse 11, what is the connection of verse 10 to verses 19-22?

Make a list of things that could ruin the unity of the church. How will you handle it if these should arise? Be specific.

Spend time praying that God will help our church be unified.

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Romans 4:1-5; 9-12 describe the relationship of circumcision to salvation. Was Abraham saved before or after being circumcised? According to Romans 4:9-12, why is this significant?