

Connect Group Notes

Sermon: How Only Jesus Really Brings People Together

Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

Date: 1st February 2026 (AM)

Intro: Our passage looks at the divide between Jew and Gentile and how in Christ all have been brought together in ONE body. You'll see that question two is optional – depending on how much you group might appreciate comparing and contrasting other Bible passages. As ever these questions are just a starter – please feel free to adapt/edit and allow discussion to run as you see best. I've suggested times for each question too.

- 1) Imagine a church where divisions run rife, especially between two dominate groups which are opposed to each other and unwilling to compromise their positions... what is the likely outcome for such a church?
(4 minutes discussion)
- 2) **OPTIONAL:** Ephesians 2:15-16 talks about the way Christ overcame the law by his death on the cross. Look at Colossians 1:19-22 and Romans 5:10-11, how does these further develop this theme.
(7 minutes discussion)
- 3) Paul repeatedly stresses in this passage that we are ONE in Christ. Find those examples and discuss why this is so critical to the gospel message that we are united to God on equal terms as other believers.
(7 minutes discussion)
- 4) A new family moves to All Saints – they are from Ethiopia and are used to a very different style of church. What barriers might they encounter? It what ways does Ephesians 2:19-22 help show us the nature of our unity with believers across the world?
(5 minutes discussion)
- 5) In pairs chat about the ways that the sermon and study on Ephesians 2:11-22 has begun to reshape your thinking about other believers?
(Feedback as a group if time allows for it)
(7 minutes discussion)

Spend time praying for our church family – especially for those who are finding the barriers at church significant at the moment. It might be nice to pray for a mission partner as well – to think of our worldwide unity with Christians who are VERY different but united in Christ.