2-27-22 Facilitator – Ephesians 2:11-22 Jesus Christ, Our Peace

1. Launchers:

How have you experienced a broken relationship?

2. Worship: Read our sermon passage Ephesians 2:11-22

Worship God by thinking through the transitions of your relationship over time. Praising Him for the work of Jesus and the generosity of God to not only give you his Spirit but to build us into a dwelling place for Him by that same Spirit.

- Vs 11-12 remember that you were separated from Christ, having no hope without God in the world
- Vs 13 But now Jesus Christ has brought us near through his blood
- Vs 18 For through Him we, Jews and Gentiles, both have access in one Spirit to the Father
- Vs 22 In Him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit

3. Sermon Reflection: Ephesians 2:11-18 Jesus Christ, Our Peace

A COMMON PROBLEM

- What does it mean to be alienated?
- How or with whom have you felt alienated? From God? Your neighbor? And even from yourself?
- When have you lived with no hope and without God?

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- What if our meeting place is a Person?
- How does that change our invitation to others and our purpose when we gather with believers?

A SHARED HOPE, STATUS & MISSION

- What does it look like to live reconciled with God and my neighbor?
- What separates us cannot eclipse what unites us The Work of Jesus How have you experienced that with your friends and enemies?
- How does Jesus, as your peace and hope, encourage you to engage in relationships with the hurting and hopeless?

4. Kingdom Centered Prayer: YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...

- 1. Worship the LORD for His heart to be related to us as His people! Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He IS an eternal relationship, and that He designed us to live in His likeness related and in love.
- 2. How have you lived as if others are not necessary and being on your own is better? Confess your pride and ignorance to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and that He would repair you from your broken ways.
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for His work to bring back together what we ripped apart in our sin. Thank Him for reconciling you to the Father, and to others; for taking out of you your guilt and putting His love in by His Spirit
- 4. Who do you know that is selfish and isolated? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them to see their perilous condition, and that they would discover the miracle and beauty of Jesus' love.
- 5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love. Pray that He would help you to live in light of what He has given you membership in His own family and that you would reflect that hope and grace to others.

5. **Mission**: Introduce your alienated friends to Jesus. Read Ephesians with them.

It seems that we have lost our "inviting" skills since Covid. So, this week invite folks to a people and a person not just an event or a "happening". The church does not exist to entertain but to transform through Jesus as we live, love, and follow him. But Jesus is a blast to get to know. He is the adventure.

Make a list of your friends who are outsiders, broken-hearted and alienated. Read Ephesians with them. Enjoy it. Let them deal with Holy Spirit and Him with them. Let them be loved by our ONE and ONLY.