

3-6-22 Facilitator: Christ the Cornerstone, Eph 2:19-22 Brown Peterson

1. **Launchers: Learning to listen to our community**

- When were you an “outsider” and “brought near”? Describe how that felt.
- When were you an “insider” and “kicked out”? Describe how that felt.

2. **Worship: Read Ephesians 2:19-21.** Worship God for His work to build us into a dwelling place for Him.

Ephesians 2:19–22 (ESV) ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²²In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

3. **Sermon Reflection:**

New Citizenship

- How does our new citizenship change:
 - our identity – who we are – ?
 - our principles – how we live - ?

New Foundation

- What is the best and most difficult aspect of changing from a foundation of your own desires and opinions to a foundation built on the apostles and prophets?
- If Jesus is our cornerstone, our central organizing passion, how does that impact our thinking, processing, and planning for ourselves, our families and community?
- What happens to your heart and desires when you put your desires and needs as the central organizing passion by which you make decisions?

New Building

- How are you experiencing being joined together, reconciliation, into a dwelling place of God by the Spirit?
- Who was once far off from you that is now near and dear to you?

4. **Kingdom Centered Prayer:**

1. Worship the LORD for his ways and work. Reflect and praise His design and love to reach the world through the church. Be thankful that he has taken you from a stranger to a child, built you His foundation, and has made you a piece of his glorious Temple that is being built where His Spirit will dwell.

2. How are you still attached and identifying as a citizen of this world? How are you living in such a way that you ignore the reality that you have the Spirit in you and that you are a block in this new building? Repent of your low earthy gaze and lack of enjoyment of being one piece in His church.

3. Give thanks to Jesus for His work to be the cornerstone for the building you are a part of. Thank Him that his works, words, and character are the direction for all other blocks that are being added. Praise him for why you love being a citizen with Him being your King.

4. Who do you know that is looking everywhere to belong? Who do you know that is desperately searching for a home where they will be loved and treasured? Pray that they hear the gospel of God’s love toward them and that they would want to be a part of a church.

5. Ask the Holy Spirit to be loud in our lives. Ask the Holy Spirit to make His presence known in every moment of every day and that we would enjoy His direction, work, conviction, encouragement, as he continues to shape us and build us into a glorious Church.

5. **Mission:** Christians are on mission to be reconciled and to reconcile. Christians celebrate uniqueness.

- Spend the week thanking your friends and enemies, family and co-workers for the ways that they are amazingly different from you.
- Look for differences and delight in them.
- Celebrate those in your life who have different interests and passions than you do.