We All Can Be Brand New (3/13/22)

Main Verses: Ephesians 2:11-22 Key Verse: Ephesians 2:19

'Takeaway': No matter where you're from, God is forming a brand-new people in Christ.

Getting Started: What makes a family or group interesting?

READ the main verses (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- Where do we find hope?
- What does it mean to be reconciled?
- What does Jesus being the cornerstone of God's family mean?
- Who brings all people together?

Elementary:

- What does it mean to be excluded? In our passage, who was excluded and why?
- Who makes it possible for us to be reconciled to God?
- What does it mean to be "in Christ?"

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- At one time we were all apart from God and unable to have a right relationship with him because of our sin.
- Reconciled means we can have a restored relationship with God through faith in Jesus who died on the cross and rose again.
- When we have faith in Jesus and live for him we are part of God's new family.
- God's power to make us one in Jesus (unite us) is bigger and better than anything that might divide us or keep us apart.

Elementary:

- At one time we were all apart from God and unable to have a right relationship with him because of our sin.
- Because of Jesus's death on the cross and resurrection, we can be reconciled to God in Christ.
- As a reconciled person/people, we are members of God's family and part of the new humanity he is forming in Christ.
- God's power to unite us in Jesus is bigger and better than the things that so often divide us (where you're from, how you look and talk, how much money you have, etc.).

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God, thanking him for sending Jesus so that through faith in him, we can be part of God's family forever. Ask God to help you to know him more, and to make you into the person he wants you to be.

(Elementary) Talk to God and thank him that because of Jesus's death and resurrection, we can be reconciled to God. If you haven't been reconciled to God, talk to him about that now. Admit you are a sinner, that you have led a me-centered life. Believe that Jesus is your only hope for forgiveness, freedom and eternal life with God. Commit now to following his leadership from this time on. Ask him to teach you how to live for him as a member of his family.

