

## **DIVERSITY AND UNITY**

### **Ephesians 2:11-22**

In a world that feels increasingly divided, it can be hard to know what to believe or where to turn for Christ-like responses to what we see happening in the news and in our own local communities. Disagreements over beliefs and practices have created rifts in our country, our communities, our churches, and in our own families. So how do we know what is right? With so many different voices from so many different sides, how do we know whose voice to listen to? What does the Bible have to say about how we navigate the complexities of relationships and life today?

☐ **Monday: Read Ephesians 2:11-13.**

Paul urges the Ephesians to remember their past. Why do you think it's important to remember who we were before Christ? How does your personal story inform your understanding of God's grace?

☐ **Tuesday: Read Ephesians 2:14.**

Paul says Jesus has "destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility." What barriers exist in your life, the church, or your community? What would it look like to let Jesus tear those barriers down?

☐ **Wednesday: Read Ephesians 2:15-18.**

Paul describes the Church as one "new humanity." What does this say about how we are called to treat one another? How does Christ's love and sacrifice empower us to embrace diversity and put aside hostility?

☐ **Thursday: Read Ephesians 2:19-22.**

Paul uses the image of citizenship and family. How does thinking of the Church as a family impact how you see others?

☐ **Friday: Read John 17:20-23.**

Jesus prays for unity among believers before going to the cross. What does that say about how important unity is to Jesus? How is our unity a witness to the world?

☐ **Saturday: Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-17.**

Paul calls the church to be "united in mind and thought." What does it mean to be united as the church today? What is the foundation for real and lasting unity?

Through Christ, we are all part of God's family, no matter our differences. Jesus has broken down every wall that divides us, calling us to embrace and celebrate our differences as part of God's divine plan. Our diversity is not a barrier but a beautiful testimony of God's grace, uniting us in love and purpose. When we celebrate and support one another, we create a picture of God's love and unity. Loving like Jesus brings peace and reconciliation, tearing down divisions among people.

**The Bible invites us to find unity in Christ.**