

## ALL-CHURCH STUDY GUIDE

October 17, 2021

### Week 2: I am a peacemaker ... because Jesus destroyed the barriers

#### PRAY

Ask for ears to hear, eyes to see, and a heart open to the truths that God will speak to you through your time together today.

#### ICEBREAKER

*(Catch-up Time)*

Were you able to take the action step last week? How did it go? Or if you weren't able to - what was the barrier?

#### READ

**Ephesians 2:1-12 (NIV)**

#### WATCH

**Play the week 2 video now. (You will be prompted twice to pause the video and discuss some questions!)**

#### DISCUSSION

*Pause & Discuss (1)*

1. If a human being had come up with a story about God becoming human, how do you think we would have written it?
2. As we think about the kind of peacemaker Jesus was and is, how do you think we become equipped to bring that kind of peace with us into any situation or room?

*Resume the video*

*Pause & Discuss (2)*

3. Why is this teaching on unity between very different people so hard for us? Has very much changed in the nearly 2000 years since Paul wrote this letter?
4. In light of all of this background, why do you think Paul made a point of reminding the audience in verse 4-5 that Christ died for people while they were still sinners? Why is this important for us to continue to remember today?

*Resume the video*

#### AFTER THE VIDEO

5. From a Christian perspective, why is it important to remember who and where we were before we met Jesus?
6. Why might it even be important to remember what our ancestors have done, whether they knew God or not?

#### PRAYER TIME

Is there a situation in your community or a relationship in your life right now where God is calling you to be a peacemaker? Pray that God can instill you with HIS vision for what peacemaking looks like, along with any other personal requests.

#### ACTION STEP

Who are your enemies? What type of person would you typically rather go do your least favorite chore than have a conversation with? Make an effort to speak to someone you would—if you're being honest—place in the "out" column if you were making the rules about the Kingdom of God. Report back to the group next week!