



SDG Discussion Guide

Ephesians 2:11-22

March 10, 2019

For Starters:

From where did your ancestors emigrate? What did their new citizenship mean to them?

What is the best thing that happened to you this week?

What is something you are particularly grateful for at present?

Guideline: The following is meant to provide an approach for further interaction with the respective sermon text and surrounding passage. Feel free to forward to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find this write up in print on that Sunday.

First, as you can, read aloud the selected passage in your group. If you have time, read it aloud a second time - from a different Bible translation.

Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together and prayed, what points and questions arise? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these points and questions. Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions you may use to guide your interaction with the text.

1. What "dividing wall" in our world would you most like to see come down?
2. Before Jesus came, what problems did the Gentiles face (vv 11-12)?
3. How do you think the practicing Jews felt when these Gentiles started coming to their church, but didn't want to adopt the Jewish custom of circumcision?
4. How has Christ destroyed hostility and made peace possible for all people?
5. How would a person of a "questionable" background be accepted in your church?
6. If Paul wrote a letter to your church today, what stand would he take on issues that threaten to tear the church apart?
7. What relationship in your life do you need to let Christ knock down walls and do a work of reconciliation?
8. How has a small group - or a small spiritual family - made a difference in your life? Trade stories and experiences of what God has done in this regard.

Take plenty of time to pray together. What has God spoken to you through the study and discussion? What is one lesson or point of learning that stuck with you that you will carry forward to continue to think on and pray? Discuss these things and pray for each other accordingly. Where are you encouraged in going forth this week? Where are you challenged?

*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).