

**Date:** September 13, 2020

**Scripture:** Ephesians 2:11-13

**Series:** God's Family

**Title:** Brought Near

**Ephesians 2:11-13** – *Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)—<sup>12</sup>remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

As members of God's family, we need to \_\_\_\_\_:

- \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 11-12)
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13)

**Questions for Reflection & Discussion**

Ephesians 2:11-13

1. How does it affect you to "remember" (Ephesians 2:11-13) your situation before you knew Christ?
2. How does today's Scripture passage speak of a non-Christian (v. 12)? What are your reactions to this description? Which of the phrases in v. 12 seem most severe?
3. What does it mean to be "brought near by the blood of Christ" (v. 13)?
4. How does this passage emphasize the corporate nature of Christianity?
5. The Ephesian church was marked by religious and cultural barriers. What specific religious and cultural barriers exist today that hinder unity among Christ-followers?
6. People from hundreds of different cultures comprise the family of God. What are a few things that we all have in common?
7. What would a church look like that was truly living out the vision of this passage?