Belonging: Our New Spiritual Family PASTOR MIKE YODER · EPHESIANS 2:11-22

God's New People PAUL'S LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS

WARM UP

What is the best advice you have ever been given?

COMING UP

GRACEPOLARIS.ORG/CALENDA

National Christian Foundation Seminar Tuesday, October 4 • 7:00 p.m. • Is there a potential sale of your business, real estate, or appreciated asset that you would like to see how charity might benefit? Come to this presentation before you sign on the dotted line and find out options you may not have realized were open to you. To RSVP by October 2, visit GracePolaris.org/NCF or text "NCF" to 614-888-7733.

Kiddie Konsignment Sale Saturday, October 8 • 9:00 a.m. • Ministry Center • Our Kiddie Konsignment Sale is the perfect place to buy gently-used items for mothers-to-be and infants to elementary-aged kids: clothing, furniture, toys, maternity items, baby equipment, and more. The sale is open from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. All items not sold in the morning will be half price from 1:00–2:00 p.m. Gain early access at 8:30 a.m. for just \$5 cash at the door. To sign up to consign your items, visit GracePolaris.org/Sale.

Baptism Class Sunday, October 9 • 10:45 a.m. • WC 10 • What is baptism and why does it matter? If you're a follower of Jesus but haven't been baptized, join us for this one-week class to gain a biblical understanding of baptism. Baptism will take place during our worship services on October 23. RSVP for this required class and apply to be baptized at GracePolaris.org/Baptism or text "Baptism" to 614-888-7733.

WITNESS

- Who are the people in your sphere of influence you're praying will come to know Jesus?
- Share any progress/updates. Pray together for God to use you and your Grace Group to influence these people for Jesus.

EXPLORE

- 1 Recall a time in which you were a part of an excluded group, seen as either an outsider or second-class. What was the reason? How did it make you feel?
- 2 What groups in our society have a long history of being excluded and seen as second-class, especially based on factors that are unchangeable?
- 3 "For [Christ] Himself is our peace" (2:14). What is your best definition of peace? What are signs that peace in a relationship is genuine, not just words?
- 4 Jesus doesn't just remove the barrier, but He enables a new relationship ("one ... out of the two"). What's the difference? Why is this new reality so important? (2:14–18)
- 5 The Jews had certain advantages ("near") over the Gentiles ("far away"). Neither had arrived or possessed reconciliation with God simply based on heritage. Describe how the message of the Gospel to all levels the playing field.
- 6 The new humanity of those in Christ is described as a building in process (2:21,22). Why is that significant? What roles do we play in the construction process of "God's dwelling"?
- 7 What are ways in which the Body of Christ should reflect the diversity in our world? How can our church do better in visibly displaying our identity through the composition and relationships of our people?

PRAY

As a member of God's household, pray that you would represent Him well.

