

Message Notes | I've Got Questions

Part 7: Do I Really Need Church?

Ephesians 2:13-22

→ I'll never go back

**#1 Being _____ Jesus
_____ with others.**

→ once far, now near - **vs. 11-16**

**#2 Those who have _____ with God
are not _____ with one another.**

→ a note about disagreements - **Acts 15:39-40**

→ one Spirit - **vs. 17-18**

**#3 Those who have _____ from God
use _____ for one another.**

→ citizens, family, temple... - **vs. 19-22, Revelation 21:2**

**#4 The Church isn't perfect.
But it's still _____.**

Group Questions | I've Got Questions

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Ephesians 2:13-22

1. What are some common reasons a person might say, "I can believe in God without going to church"?
2. Agree or disagree: A person's faith in Jesus is something they can live out privately, without needing other Christians.
3. **Read Ephesians 2:13-16.** Jesus doesn't just offer us peace or point out the path to peace. He "is our peace." What does that mean?
4. The message acknowledged that even though Jesus unites us under his peace, it's still possible for Christians to have disagreements that lead them to part ways. (See Acts 15:39-40.) How can you tell when a parting is done in peace rather than in hostility?
5. **Read Galatians 5:22-23.** Explain how each fruit is designed to benefit others, not just the individual who possesses them.
6. **Read Ephesians 2:19-22.** Paul uses three terms to describe a church: fellow citizens, members of a family, and a holy temple. Which term stands out to you the most, and why?
7. Jesus views his church as his beautiful bride (Revelation 21:2), and that includes you. How might that picture shape the way you respond when a church disappoints you, frustrates you, or even hurts you?
8. Has God put someone in your life who wants nothing to do with church because of a painful experience they had? What might it look like to love them and be the church for them? How can this group pray for them?

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Part 7: Do I Really Need Church?

Ephesians 2:13-22

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#1 Being united to Jesus unites you with others.

→ once far, now near - **vs. 11-16**

#2 Those who have peace with God are not at war with one another.

→ a note about disagreements - **Acts 15:39-40**

→ one Spirit - **vs. 17-18**

#3 Those who have purpose from God use his gifts for one another.

→ citizens, family, temple... - **vs. 19-22, Revelation 21:2**

#4 The Church isn't perfect. But it's still Christ's bride.

Bible Reading for Today

Ephesians 2:13-22

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.