

In This Together

What is the Church?

Ephesians 2:19-22
Pastor Chris Lenhart – 6/9/24



Introduction:

Questions to be untangled...

Goals for Spiritual Formation...

Today's big-thought Question: What (or who) is the Church?

We are a called-out people, transformed individually... (Eph. 1-2:10)

Gathered by, through and in Jesus, transformed collectively... (Eph. 2:11-18)

Into a new, transformed structure, a dwelling place of God. (Eph. 2:19-22)

The church then, is a people called out and set apart by God, through and in Christ Jesus. We are named as Beloved children, invited to belong to the household of God. We are empowered and equipped to grow into becoming the body and bride of Jesus, a dwelling place of God in this present age.

Next Week: "In this Together-Ephesus: Cling to Love" Rev. 2:1-7

Further Study

Eph. 1-2:10

Eph. 1:7
Rom. 11:11-31

Jn. 1:12-13
Jn. 14:6
1 Tim. 3:15
Col. 1:17
Eph. 4:15-16

Follow along with today's sermon using your smartphone. Download the "CMBC" app (search for "Calvary Monument" in your app store) and click on "Sundays" at the bottom of the screen.

<p style="text-align: center;">In This Together</p> <h1 style="text-align: center;">What is the Church?</h1> <p>Next Steps: Home-Group Study and/or Personal Discipleship Guide</p>	<p>Eph. 2:19-22</p>
<p>Get together as a family or with a friend or group of friends this week!</p> <p>Start with Prayer -ask Jesus to guide our time together. Go over prayer requests together.</p> <p>Read the Text - Ephesians 2:11-22</p> <p>Questions for Reflection & Discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is it sometimes hard for us to think of the church as a people, rather than a building? How can we be more intentional with our language, to encourage our thinking of the Church more toward a people than physical space? 2. Discuss or journal about the individual identity of those who are a part of the church. How has our identity been changed by God in Christ? (Eph. 1:3-2:10) 3. Discuss or journal about the collective identity of the Church. What does Paul highlight or emphasize as the evidence of God's power at work within the collective body of Christ? (Eph. 2:11-22) 4. Using Ephesians 1 & 2 as your backdrop or context, write your own 1-2 sentence definition of the church. Who is the Church? 5. What does Paul mean when he says that the church, as a people, is the holy temple or dwelling place of God in this present age? (vss. 19-22). What are the applications of this designation for the church today? <p>Questions guiding Spiritual Formation & Application:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does this text invite us to grow in a greater love for God? 2. What lessons within this text move us towards growing in our love for one another? 3. What principles could be applied to our family life, careers, communities, or congregational life? 4. Consider how Jesus could use our application of the principles in this text to draw those that do not know him, unto himself? 5. Who is currently in our lives that needs an invitation to meet Jesus or be part of a kind and gracious Christian community? 	<p><u>Further Study</u></p> <p>Eph. 1-2:10 Eph. 1:7 Rom. 11:11-31 Jn. 1:12-13 Jn. 14:6 1 Tim. 3:15 Col. 1:17 Eph. 4:15-16</p> <p><u>Prayer Requests</u></p> <p>Family</p> <p>Church</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Career/Friends</p> <p>Other</p>