

Ephesians 2:13-22

Who We Are in Christ

Points to Consider

1. We are fellow citizens
2. We are members of His household
3. We are built together for a dwelling place of God

We are fellow citizens

Eph 2:11-19

The words 'strangers' and 'foreigners' refer to those who are not a citizen and one who is a _____ instead of belonging to the household.

Now, the Gentiles who believe in Jesus are _____ citizens the Jewish saints.

Citizenship has both _____ and responsibilities.

The rights, or privileges, we have as citizens are the spiritual blessings Paul discusses in the first 3 chapters of this book. In chapters 4-6 he will turn his attention to some of the responsibilities we have as citizens.

Acts 10:24-28; Acts 11:1-3; Acts 15:3-5

During the New Testament time there was a great _____ for Gentiles among the Jews.

Even when it became apparent to Jewish Christians that Gentiles could have a relationship with God, some of the Pharisees insisted that the Gentiles would have to become Jews _____.

There may be thousands of nations on the earth, but there is only one nation that belongs to God. God's nation is made up of all who are in _____.

Eph 5:5 *For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. NKJV*

Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5:3; 5:10; 5:19 ; 5:20; 6:10; 6:13; 6:33; 7:21

Practical Application: Meditate on what kingdom citizenship means to us. Think about the blessings of citizenship (protection, help, right to address the king). Dwell on our responsibilities as citizens (submitting to God's laws, helping other citizens, helping others become citizens).

We are members of His household

Eph 2:19 *Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God... NKJV*

Being a member of God's house is a more _____ relationship than being a subject in His kingdom.

1 Tim 3:14 *These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; 15 but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. NKJV*

The **church** is the house of God.

John 1:10-13 *He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. NKJV*

Those who believe in _____ have the right to become children of God.

1 John 3:1-3 *Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*

God bestowed His love on us by adopting us into His family and allowing us to be _____ children.

Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5:16; 5:43-48 ; 6:1; 6:4; 6:6; 6:8; 6:9; 6:14; 6:18; 6:26; 6:32; 7:11; 7:21

1 Peter 3:8-10 *Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; 9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. NKJV*

We are to love one another as _____.

Practical Application: Take time to thank God for being your father and treating you like a child He loves. Also, consider what it means to “love as brothers” and put that into practice this week.

We are the dwelling place of God

Eph 2:19- - The church is the _____ place of God.

1 Cor 3:9-12 - Paul told the Corinthians that they were part of God’s _____.

1 Peter 2:4-10 - Peter said that Christians are being built into a _____ house.

Practical Application: Consider the importance of this local church being a dwelling place for God. Paul moved from the church being a kingdom, to a family, to the dwelling place of God. There was a step up in intimacy with each illustration.