

Becoming a Holy Temple

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. Ephesians 2:19-20

There is a lot of power packed into this passage of scripture. Paul is writing this letter to the church in Ephesus that is now a blended church of Jews and Gentiles. To the outside world there is a huge difference between the two. But inside the church those distinctions are dissolved. In our church today I've never heard of a problem between Jews and Gentiles. We have other problems that try to divide us. There are racial differences, financial differences, age differences, educational differences, and background differences that try to keep us from being a unified family. Paul is saying when we become a part of God's family, we are no longer foreigners and strangers, we are members.

The one thing that has the power to unify people, who are so different, is Jesus. Jesus reached out to people of all races. Jesus honored the widow who only had two pennies to her name and He invited the rich tax collectors to follow Him. Jesus taught the older generation and invited the children to come to Him. Jesus spoke in a way that challenged the teachers of the law and encouraged the common man. And Jesus loved the Pharisee Nicodemus and the five time divorced Samaritan woman.

Our church needs to follow the example of Jesus. We not only need to be diverse, we need to love our diversity. In the next verse in Ephesians 3 Paul uses a beautiful analogy of a church family with diversity.

In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. Ephesians 3:21

Satan will always try to divide us. With Jesus as our cornerstone we will come together to build a holy temple in the Lord. That can only happen when we each embrace and love those who are different than ourselves.

Phillip

Eastern Hills Church of Christ

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Elders: Carrell Dennis ♥ Chase Palmer ♥ Brandon Smith

Pulpit Minister: Phillip Treat ♥ **Childrens' Director:** Marla Caton

Deacons: Lafe Caton ♥ Terry Cloud ♥ John Grubbs ♥ David Little
Dakota Nowell ♥ Brandon Pyle ♥ Dan Streety ♥ Richard Yarberry



SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Class 9:30,

Worship 10:30,

6PM - Sunday Evenings

Wednesday

Devo & Bible Classes at 6:30

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