

Review:

Lesson 1: The Family of God

Lesson 2: Eyes to See

Lesson 3: Our Story

Overcoming Division Ephesians 2:11-22

When we are getting it right, our life together as Christ followers does not replicate the walls of division that exist in a broken world. Rather, as we are _____ to God through Christ, we are also reconciled to one another.

Discussion 1. What walls of separation did you experience before you began following Christ? Have you been in fellowship with Christians who came from the other side of those walls now that you are following Christ? If you are still experiencing walls of division even within the church, what might that mean?

Our identity in Christ does what the world cannot (and will not) do: it renders all the ways we tend to divide ourselves, all our tribes and cultural distinctions, as _____ to the unity we have in Him.

Discussion 2. Have you ever worshipped with Christians from a very different culture than yours? Have you ever worshipped with Christians who speak a different language than you? How would you describe the unity you felt? Can you think of any secular or worldly movements that can achieve that same level of unity?

No matter who we are before following Jesus, no matter our spiritual privilege nor our lack thereof, in Christ we all share the same Spirit and have _____ to the Father.

Discussion 3. The Christian who comes from 4 generations of Christian pastors and the one who is the very first Christian in his/her entire family both have equal access to the Father through Jesus. Why is that important? How does that reality strike your own personal story?

God's intention for the spiritual bonds among Christ followers is _____ and _____ than we can even imagine.

Discussion 4. Have you ever experienced bonds with other Christ followers that were stronger than actual family? If so, to what do you attribute it, i.e., why do we experience it in some Christian communities but not in others? How long did it take for you to feel those bonds?