

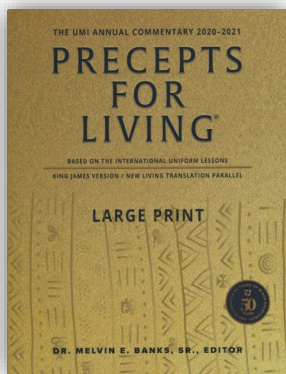
GOD INVITES

Here at BBC, we want to welcome people who are questioning or seeking faith, or those who are hurting, or those who are rough around edges. Jesus made room for people like that, and he rejoiced as they came to him.

We pray that God will bring into our fellowship many who have not yet found place in God's church, or who feel disconnected. There is a place for them in God's household, and we may be the ones to welcome them home.

GOD ENCOURAGES

Lamentations 5
A Plea for Restoration



Bible Baptist Church BIBLE STUDY

BUILDING TRUSTWORTHY CONNECTIONS

Ephesians 2:11-22



Wednesday, April 21, 2021

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"Where the Church is a Family"



GOD SPEAKS

Overview: Today, we are going to think about WHY it is difficult for people to be assimilated into the church, and HOW to build bridges between people.

WHY IS IT DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE TO FIT IN?

1. WE MIGHT THINK SOME PEOPLE ARE _____ OF BEING IN OUR SMALL GROUP.

¹²that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)

2. WE HAVE _____ CONNECTING WITH SOME PEOPLE.

¹⁹Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, (Ephesians 4:19)

3. WE DON'T _____ WITH SOME PEOPLE.

¹⁴For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, (Ephesians 2:14)

HOW CAN WE BUILD BRIDGES BETWEEN PEOPLE?

1. _____ OUR OWN _____.

¹¹Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—¹²that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. (Ephesians 2:11-13)

2. FIND A COMMON _____ IN CHRIST

¹⁵having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace, (Ephesians 2:15)

3. _____ THE _____ OF THE PEOPLE GOD HAS CALLED TO HIS CHURCH

¹⁹Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, ²¹in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22)