

Sermon: Christ Our Peace

May 30,2021

Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-20

I. Paul addresses the past of the _____.

Ephesians 2:11-12 Genesis 12:1-3

1. Living in this world without Christ means you live without hope. 1 Peter 1:3-5

II. Christ's _____ is the basis of our present union reconciling _____.

(13-15); Galatians 3:26-28; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14

III. Jesus reconciles Jews and Gentiles _____(16-18)

1. On the cross the hostility with God is settled. Romans 6:6
Colossians 1:19-22

2. Access to God the Father is by the Holy Spirit through the Son.
Romans 8:26-27; Hebrews 4:15-16

IV. God is building a _____.

1. Believers have a new spiritual home. (19); Philippians 3:20

2. The cornerstone of the church is Jesus Christ. (20) 1
Corinthians 3:11; 1 Peter 2:6-7

3. The Apostles and Prophets doctrine provide the foundation of the temple. Acts 2:42

4. God is the architect and builder of the temple. (21-22) 1
Corinthians 6:19; 1 Peter 2:4-5; 9-10

Thought for the Day The United States of America was a great experiment started by men and women who wanted the freedom to worship God as they wanted. In order to attain this freedom, we fought a revolutionary war of independence where men died to establish our union. We have fought many wars to preserve that freedom and tomorrow we pause to remember the sacrifice men made. Like the rest of the world America participated in the practice of slavery. We fought a civil war which abolished that sin. Many years of segregation and special privileges followed. History is full of prejudice and man's inhumanity to man. Our nation is trying to force unity by giving special privileges to races previously slighted. In a way they are trying to overcome special privileges by giving out special privileges. In our scripture lesson today **Ephesians 2:14-18** ¹⁴ For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*; ¹⁵ Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, *so* making peace; ¹⁶ And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: ¹⁷ And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. It is our relationship to Christ that makes us united. All people are saved by the blood of Jesus reconciling us to God. The truth is the Son will make all who call upon him free. Without Jesus America will never attain the goal to have a nation where all men are created equal and that all life from the womb to the tomb matters. It is the Christ in me and the Christ in you that gives the same Holy Spirit who invites us to share the same God invites us to have fellowship with him. **Pastor Bruce**

What's happening with our Youth Ministry today?

Junior Disciples: AM Church Service

Today we are continuing curriculum called “The Core”. Over the next year we’ll be learning about the 8 “roots” of discipleship, Apologetics, Community, Identity, Kingdom, Knowledge, Outreach, Rescue and Worship. This week we’ll begin our “Outreach” root. Before he returned to his Father in heaven, Jesus gave his followers one last command: to spread the good news of his death and resurrection—the gospel—to the whole world. That’s a daunting task. But if we truly

understand the joy we have as followers of Jesus, we’ll realize that sharing this joy is the greatest act of love we can show another person. When we become members of Christ’s body of believers, the story doesn’t end. That’s just the beginning! Now we get to join in a remarkable mission to care for the least, to love other people, and to share Jesus as Lord wherever we go.

There is also a parent’s guide that goes along with these lessons that includes activities your families can do to continue learning during the week. Please let me know if you are not receiving my emails.

Senior High Youth Group: Thursday Nights at 7 PM

On Thursday nights our senior high youth group will be meeting in the youth building. This week we are starting a brand new study called, “This is the Day” with lessons from former NFL QB Tim Tebow. Sometimes life feels rigid—as if nothing could ever really change. Maybe we’re afraid of taking a step of faith. Or maybe we’re too injured from the past to move forward. Or maybe life threw us a curveball and we still don’t know how to react. No matter where you find yourself, you can make the most of today. In this inspirational series, Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow shares stories from his life to illustrate what it means to seize each day for God’s glory. He challenges us to step out in courage because this is the day to act.

You Go Before Me

by Jason Hobbs

You go before me, you’ve been there before
I can’t imagine it, but You know much more
Oh God of Heaven, it’s your perfect plan
It’s not impossible, behind You I can

Chorus

So I’ll take on this journey, I’ll step out in faith
I’ll follow your leading, I’ll live in your grace
This story’s not over, so I give it to you
You’re working within me, and you’ll see it through

You are before me, and you’re at my side
My joy and sadness, in you I confide
You have a purpose, a reason, a rhyme
You’ve never been wrong, and won’t be this time

Chorus

All-knowing, all-powerful
I will sing of who you are
Dependable, Accessible
I will sing of who you are
Unmovable, unshakeable
I will praise you, oh my Lord
Unstoppable, undeniable
I will praise you, oh my Lord

Chorus

You go before me, you’ve been there before
I will believe it, for You know much more