TO RECONCILE BOTH OF THEM TO THE CROSS

Ephesians 2:11–22

Key Verse: 2:16

1. What was the condition of Gentile believers before knowing Christ? (11,12) What is their present condition in Christ Jesus and how was this possible? (13) Why is it important to remember this and not forget?

2. Read verses 14,15a. What were the barriers between the Jews and Gentiles which led to hostility? (Ac10:28a; 21:27–29) Who is Jesus to us, and what did he do to remove the barriers? (Col1:20; Heb9:12–14)

3. What was God’s purpose in making the two groups one? (15b) What does “one new humanity” mean? (2Co5:17; Gal3:28)

4. How did God reconcile Jew and Gentile to himself and to each other? (16,17) How is it possible for us to have access to the Father? (18; Heb10:19,20) How does this reveal the Triune God at work?

5. How does Paul describe Gentile believers’ new status and the church? (19) On what foundation is the household of God built? (20) How does God bless the church, the household of God? (21,22)

6. Why do you think conflicts and hostility exist within the church, and how can they be resolved? (Ac11:17; Eph4:2,31–32)