

Ekklesia: Reconcile

Week of May 9: Ephesians 2:1-22

Observation

1. Read Ephesians 2:1-22. What do you notice as you read?
2. What questions do you have?

Observation: What does it say?

1. What do you notice about the text?
Things to look for:
 - repeating words and phrases
 - Answers to the questions: who, what, when, where and how?
 - contrasts and comparisons
 - similes and metaphors (images used in the text)
 - cause and effect relationships
 - details regarding: time, geography, place, people, action in the text
 - grammar
 - larger themes in the passage
 - key words and themes
2. What questions do you have?

Interpretation

1. Verse 10 highlights that the Ephesians are both God's handiwork and that they have been called to do good works themselves. How are these things linked? What good works do you think that Paul is talking about here?

2. What is your understanding of what it means for Jesus to be our peace?

Interpretation

The goal here is to answer questions raised by the text and to get at the central message of the passage itself.

What did the text mean for the original audience?

How might you summarize the central point of the passage?

Application

1. Ephesians 2 is talking particularly about the division between Jews and Gentiles, but the church can also be divided in other ways. What divisions do we see in churches today? How might the message of this passage apply to these situations?
2. In verse 22 Paul notes that the Ephesian Christians are “being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” How does both the diversity and unity of the church contribute to God’s work in our world?

Suggestion for Prayer

Pray for unity in the church today.

Pray for the witness of FBC in the community.