

## **Members Of God's Household**

Hope Chapel Honolulu

Ephesians 2:8-22

<sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22, ESV)

### **Introduction**

The Old Testament was a covenant between God and just one nation of men who were all descendants of Abraham. The New Testament is a covenant between God and every man, woman and child who would believe in Jesus Christ. While it can be argued that the Jewish laws, language and culture formerly gave the people of God their identity, it is relationship with Christ that gives the people of God their identity today. While the Old made distinctions among the people of God by family association, under the New, Christ calls, empowers, leads and works through each and every believer as each believer would speak, act and relate to one another in truth and love and seek to build one another up.

### **1. Brought near to God and to one another through Christ. (Ephesians 2:8-16)**

- a) God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:14-21)
- b) Reconciliation between God and man and amongst nations, tribes and peoples.

### **2. Made members of one household by the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 2:17-20)**

- a) We have been given access to the Father by the Holy Spirit through Christ.
- b) God's house is built upon the foundation of Christ, the prophets and apostles.

### **3. We are being built together as God's temple. (Ephesians 2:21-22)**

- a) Every person potentially has a part in God's plan and a place in God's heart.
- b) We who are in Christ are being made into God's household (Ac17:24-31).

### **Conclusion**

Put simply, this kind of shared membership in Christ is expressed through 1) loving Jesus, 2) trusting God and following leaders, 3) loving one another, 4) giving and receiving, and 5) becoming servants and friends of God and one another. Will you join us in going and making disciples of the people of Honolulu, the Pacific, Asia and beyond through prayer and meaningful relationships based upon the Person and Message of Jesus Christ?

### **For our prayerful study, discussion and application:**

- 1) What differences between the Old and New Testament are important to you?
- 2) Read Ephesians 2:8-22. What is God using for building material for His house?
- 3) What is the one thing the Word and Spirit of God are showing you about membership?

**032419cdg@hch**