

October 20, 2024: Building Bridges

While we live in a world of division, conflict, and polarization, followers of Jesus are called to live with reconciliation and love. Because Jesus is our peace, the one who tore down the dividing wall of hostility, we are given the freedom and opportunity to build bridges in our world.

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:14

Optional Reading: Luke 10:30-37 (Parable of the Good Samaritan)

1. Ephesians 2:14 speaks of Christ as our peace who has “made the two groups one and has destroyed the dividing wall of hostility.” Who were these two groups, and what kind of barriers did they have?
2. How do you see these types of barriers (cultural, social, racial) manifesting themselves in the world today?
3. Can you recall a time when you felt separated from others, either through cultural differences, misunderstandings, or personal conflict? How did that impact you?
4. What are some barriers in your life that you feel God is calling you to break down?
5. How does Christ’s work on the cross serve as a “bridge” between us and God, between us and others?

6. How does the peace that Christ offers challenge our attitudes toward those who are different from us?
7. In what ways might building bridges be costly or difficult? How can we rely on God's strength in those moments?
8. What are some practical steps you can take to build bridges in our community, church, and workplace?
9. What would it look like for our church to actively break down walls of division and build bridges in our community?