

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

Scripture

Ephesians 2:1-10, 14-16

Session Summary

The gospel reveals God's character more clearly than anywhere else. On one hand, we see His justice and righteousness. He does not sweep sin under the rug, but exercises holy wrath. And yet, in the gospel, we find a God whose heart holds more mercy than the oceans hold water. We are met by a God whose love cannot be measured and whose grace and kindness are greater than we could have ever hoped for. And to think that in the ages to come, there is yet more grace to be found in Him. This inspires praise like King David penned: "This is why you are great, Lord God. There is no one like you, and there is no God besides you, as all we have heard confirms" (2 Sam. 7:22).

The gospel brings peace with God, but it also makes peace with others possible. God reconciles us to Himself and then to each other; He makes us new and then makes our relationships new, too. God dismantled the barrier between Jews and Gentiles, creating one people in Christ. Much like Israel was composed of 12 tribes, now God's people are one nation from every tribe and race. In Christ, what unites us is greater than what divides us. By making us one, Jesus gives us a new identity. Enemies are now brothers; opponents are now co-heirs; dissimilar people are now one body. While we maintain the beauty and dignity of our differences, those differences no longer define our relationships. Now, our differences complement one another in order to display the power and love of God.

- What does Ephesians 2 teach us about God's character?
- Why should the gospel make us more forgiving toward each other?
- How can we live out the peace and reconciliation made possible through the cross?
- What can we do to show God's love towards people who are different from us?

Paul told the Ephesians that God had made them one new man (2:15). Put your family in pairs of two or three. Tie one set of hands and one set of ankles together. Once everyone is tied up together, present the pair tasks that they must complete in a set time. For example, they could wrap a present, pour everyone a glass of water, make a bed, or brush their teeth. Then discuss how your family can live in the unity of the gospel.