

US&THEM

Week 1

BRBC Groups

November 8, 2020

Scripture | Genesis 1:26-28, Ephesians 2:11-22

Ice Breaker | 1. From where did you or your ancestors emigrate? What did their/your new citizenship mean to them/you?

Going Deeper |

1. Is there anything that stood out to you from Sunday's message, or do you have any questions?
2. Can you remember when you first became aware of race? What brought it to light for you?
3. What does it mean for you to be of your culture or race? What are some cultural characteristics of your culture that you appreciate? (Such as: Style of dress, food, beliefs about hospitality, concepts of time, values, literature...)
4. As we begin this new series called Us & Them, focusing on the sin of racism, what are some of the challenges you see in our culture around the issue of race? What are some of the challenges you see in the church around race?
5. Read Ephesians 2:11-22
6. What is the problem Paul is addressing in this church? Who are the "in" people? Who are the "out" people?
7. Is this a problem that we still see today? If yes, how do we see it in the church? If no, can you express why it is not a problem?
8. How did God resolve this problem the church were facing?
9. Why did God do all this?
10. How do you think the practicing Jews felt when these Gentiles started coming to their church, but didn't want to adopt the Jewish custom of circumcision?
11. Are there any parallels in the church today in how we "do church" to this church in Ephesus?
12. What changes do you (*the key word is you*) need to make to encourage more openness to include people who are of different cultures or races in our church?
13. In the message this week, Rob said a good place to start is with repentance, and then to turn towards a better way of being. What do you need to repent of in regards to this discussion?
14. How can we pray for each other this week?