

Talk It Over

Renovating the Church

Week #2: A Place of Hope

August 24 & 25



Warm-up Question

Do you agree with the premise that people are attending church less often than they used to? What do you think are the reasons behind this?

Read: Ephesians 1:1-14

Discussion questions

1. What does Paul mean by use of the term “spiritual blessings” (vs. 3)? Does the word “spiritual” define the type or source of the blessing?
2. How do you define the term “heavenly realms” (v. 3)? Is this another location, or a dimension of our existence today?
3. God is gathering all things together in Christ Jesus (v. 10). What does this mean? How does this define our future?

Application

1. How does our relationship with God in Christ Jesus help us deal with things in life we cannot control? Do you have an example from your own life that shows how this works?
2. On a scale of 1-5 (1 being low and 5 being high), do you feel your life has value and purpose?
 - How is our value and purpose determined by the fact that we are chosen by Christ Jesus? How do the words “chosen and predestined” work together to give our lives meaning and significance?
 - What is one thing you can do this week to live into God’s value and purpose for you?
3. In what ways does our connection to the church help us access the realities Paul describes in these verses? Based on this passage, why would you say church attendance is important? Is church attendance important to you?

Prayer

Close with prayer about what you have discussed.