

Who Am I Part 10
EPHESIANS 2:18-
Jeff Wall

“For through Him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.” Eph. 2:18 (NIV)

Do you see the power of the Trinity in verse 18? Through the Son we both have access in One Spirit to the Father.

1. The church meets my need for Security.

*“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens but **fellow citizens** with God’s people and members of God’s household.”* Eph. 2:19 (NIV)

We are part of God’s kingdom.

2. The church meets my need for Relationship.

“and members of God’s household.” Eph. 2:19 (NIV)

We are Member’s of God’s Household

We are God’s family!

3. The church meets my need for Significance.

“In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.” Eph. 2:21 (NIV)

We are part of God’s eternal purpose.

“And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.” Eph. 2:22

1. Built on the Foundation of Apostles and Prophets? Foundation = Word of God

2. Jesus as the Cornerstone

“Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone.”

Eph. 2:20 (NIV)

- All the measurements of the building were taken from the cornerstone.
- All the weight of the building rested on the cornerstone.
- Everything in the building tied together at the cornerstone.
That makes Jesus pretty important in the church.

Peter talks about you and I are living stones in this great building.

“You also are like living stones, so let yourselves be used to build a spiritual temple – to be holy priests who offer spiritual sacrifices to God. He will accept those sacrifices through Jesus Christ.” 1 Pet. 2:5 (NCV)

A couple of construction principles. It at the end of this chapter...

1. It’s in Jesus that the whole building is joined together. Christ love is the mortar that keeps us together...
2. And it’s in Jesus that you’re being built together. He’s not only the glue that holds the whole thing together, but He’s the carpenter. *“I will build my Church”*

Summary:

In Jesus Christ, aliens become citizens and
strangers become family and
idol worshipers are being built into a temple of the Lord.

How Significant Servants See Themselves.

“For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles” Eph. 3:1 (NIV)

1. A PRISONER OF CHRIST

Question: What is the “orienting” guide in your life? Like the instrument panel on the plane... which gauge are you looking at? What is your LIFE MISSION?

- A prisoner of Christ

Paul's life mission helped him to see his situation in light of his calling.
Paul's life mission helped him to see Christ's control where he had no control.

- A Prisoner FOR THE SAKE OF the Gentiles
Paul's life mission helped him to see the impact upon those he served above the consequences in his own life. Look at Phil. 1:12-14 (NCV)

*"This **mystery** is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus."* Eph. 3:2-6 (NIV)

What is the mystery revealed?

The message of grace is for all...

The mystery is the key that unlocks everything else.

This mystery is the key to understanding the Bible.

If it's true that Jesus broke all the barriers down, how come we have so many denominations today?

How Significant Servants See Themselves.

2. A "MANAGER" OF GOD'S MYSTERY

- A mystery = something formerly unknown that has been made known by God.
- A manager = someone given responsibility to oversee something that belongs to another.
- The job description of a minister is to reveal a mystery.

How Significant Servants See Themselves.

3. A SERVANT OF THE GOOD NEWS

"Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me; to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things." Eph. 3:8-9

3 Tools Servants CANNOT do without

- GRACE
Servanthood grows out of grace.
- GOD'S POWER
Servanthood is energized by God.
- HUMILITY
Servanthood is enabled by our humility

He changed his name from Saul ("asked for") to Paul ("Little")

The "workplace" of God's servants is: The Church

Next week "4 spheres of influence you have as a minister of the gospel."