

# EPHESIANS

*PART OF SOMETHING BIG*



*November 5, 2023*



# WELCOME

At RCC, the Bible tells us that God wants us to find our greatest joy in Him and that He desires for us to share this experience with others.

So our mission is - To encourage people to **Enjoy God Together**.

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And our vision is - To **build joy-filled communities of faith** whose very existence inspires individuals to live an abundant Christian life, **made up of three key relationships - r1, r2, and r3**.

**r1** – A deepening relationship with God

**r2** – A life-changing relationship with other believers

**r3** – An engaging relationship with those yet to believe

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To get there, we have a few things that matter to us:



**WE FIND OUR GREATEST JOY IN JESUS**



**WHAT WE THINK ABOUT GOD MATTERS**



**WE HELP PEOPLE HELP PEOPLE**



**WE CELEBRATE QUESTIONS**



**WE EMBRACE INEVITABLE TENSIONS**



**THIS IS FOR LIFE**

# GIVING UPDATE

Thank you to all of you for investing in RCC's vision and community. As of 11/1/23 our giving vs. budget is:

General Fund Giving	Month of October	Year to Date
2023 Actual	\$173,368	\$1,117,577
2023 Budget	\$115,899	\$1,284,859
Difference	\$57,569	-\$167,282

At RCC, we believe that giving comes as a natural, joyous outpouring of worship for what God has done, is doing, and will do in our lives. So whatever is received, we are grateful and truly believe God is honored through our giving.

## SOLID GROUND

Men are not meant to pursue God and live for Him on our own. Solid Ground is a place to open up, make genuine connections, and ignite your faith, together, as men.

**When:** 7:00-8:30p on 1st and 3rd Thursdays starting November 2

**What:** No commitments, just an open invitation to hear from one of our own, focus on God's word, and spend time connecting and encouraging each other.


**Where:** The RCC Library (C201) in the Worship Center

For more info call Tom Tietz (714) 932-8370 or Mike Wojtanowicz (951) 233-3790



RCC's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
**CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT**

*Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30pm*



*Invite your friends to ring in the Christmas season with a night of music and laughter. This year, our musical friends joining us:*

**BROADWAY ACTOR, MUSIC ARTIST FROM TV  
AND FILM **TERRON BROOKS****

**MULTIPLE DOVE AWARD WINNER AND  
GRAMMY NOMINATED RECORDING ARTIST  
**CRYSTAL LEWIS****

**ACCLAIMED JAZZ SINGER **LIA BOOTH****

**THE TOM DANTE TRIO**

**OUR **YOUNG PERFORMER SHOWCASE****

**AND **MORE!****





# SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK:

## Ephesians 2:11-18

<sup>11</sup> Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— <sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup> by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup> And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

## NOTES:

# **The Power of Remembering**

Ephesians 2:11-18

Todd Chapman - November 5, 2023

Paul writes exuberantly to help those of us who love Jesus more fully experience the grace and love God has lavished on us. In today's text, he encourages us to remember that we might more fully appreciate and celebrate who we are in Jesus.

**Remember the past – Before Jesus, we were in a world of hurt.**

**Celebrate the present, because “now in Christ”, we enjoy all the benefits God promised the Jews!**

# **Life Group Discussion Questions**

Ephesians 2:11-18

For the week of November 5, 2023

## **Reading the Text:**

1. What was the big idea of Ephesians 2:8-10 from two weeks ago?
2. Paul seems to have gone to great lengths in Ephesians for his readers to understand and remember their transformation since coming to faith in Christ. In this text, how does he describe life before Jesus? What are his readers to “remember” (vv. 11-12)? In your own words, how “well off” were the Gentiles before Jesus, spiritually?
3. While 2:4 contains the biggest “but” in the Bible, 2:13 must be a close second. What does Paul communicate with the shift in focus in v. 13? What does Paul want the reader to see about their life now?
4. How many times do you see the word “peace” in the second half of the passage (vv. 14-18)? What does Paul say about “peace” in these verses? What did we have before (vv. 11-12), and what can we have now (vv. 13/14-18)?
5. How would you restate the big idea of the Ephesians 2:11-18 in your own words?

## **Living It Out:**

1. What does nearness to God feel like? When do you feel most near to Him?
2. Clearly, Paul wants us to see God’s involvement in the process of salvation from beginning to end. What would seeing that in your life do for your attitude, your confidence, your sense of optimism, and your view of the future?
3. When you think of your “status” in Jesus, what words come to mind? How does knowing that status make you feel about your connection to God?
4. What does life look like when we more fully embrace the access we have to God? How can we as a Life Group encourage you to walk more confidently in this profound relationship?

# RICHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

## OUR STAFF



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