3 Reminders:

1. **We used to be separated.**

   *Ephesians 2:11-12 (ESV)*  
11 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—

12 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.

   - **Without Christ** – He is our joy, hope, salvation, power, satisfaction.
   - **Without community**
   - **Without promises**
   - **Without Hope**
   - **Without God**

2. **Jesus Christ has brought reconciliation.**

   *Ephesians 2:13-17 (ESV)*  
13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 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, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

   **Remember the cross!**

**Benefits of Christ’s reconciling work on the cross:**

1. Forgiveness from God
2. Righteousness before God
3. Peace with God (Eph. 2:14a)
4. Peace with God’s People
5. Access to God

   *Ephesians 2:18 (ESV)*  
For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.
3. We have a new identification.

**Ephesians 2:19-22 (ESV)** 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

- Citizens of God’s Kingdom (Eph. 2:19a)
- Members of God’s Family (Eph. 2:19b)
  1. We are members of the same family because we have the same Father. (Eph. 3:14)
  2. We should live distinctly as God’s children.
  3. We have unique roles in the family.
  4. Families protect one another and care for one another.
- Stones in God’s Temple (Eph. 2:20-22)
  1. Our Cornerstone is Jesus.
  2. Our Foundation is on God’s Word.
  3. Our Role is to do our part and join together with other stones.