Introduction:

Today we will continue looking at *What God Has Accomplished*.

Things we will look at in this lesson: From Alienation to Reconciliation.

From Alienation to Reconciliation:

01. What is the major theme of Ephesians 2?

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02. What is stressed in verses 11 through 22?

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03. Where are those who are without Christ headed?

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04. What were they excluded from?

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05. How did the Jews view the Gentiles?

06. Besides not sharing in the hope of Israel what else made them hopeless?

07. What did God act through to bring us near?

08. How was reconciliation brought about?

09. What does Jesus bringing a new kind of person into being mean?

10. What did Jesus give both Jews and Gentiles access to?

11. Where are Jew and Gentile made fellow citizens?

12. What are Jews and Gentiles fellow members of?

13. What are Jew and Gentile built together into?

Article 1) Access to the Father:

For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. —Ephesians 2:18

Access to God the Father comes through his Son, Jesus Christ, by the presence of the Holy Spirit in believers' lives. "Access" means that we who have faith in Christ have the freedom and right to approach our heavenly Father with confidence that we will be accepted, welcomed and loved.

(1) This access is gained through Christ, who gave his life on the cross to pay the penalty for our sin and to restore our opportunity for a personal relationship with God (Ephesians 2:13; Romans 5:1–2). Even now, Christ continues to intercede—to mediate and plead our case—to his Father in heaven for all who come to him (Hebrews 7:25; 4:14–16).

(2) Access to God requires the Holy Spirit's help. The Spirit's power within the lives of Christ's followers makes it possible for them to pray according to God's perfect will and purpose (John 14:16–17; 16:13–14; Romans 8:15–17, 26–27).