

Going Deeper Questions

How Many Ways?

Ephesians 2:11-22

February 14, 2010

1. Sunday, February 14, 2010, Valentine's Day! How has someone who loves you communicated their love for you (it can be big ways or little ways)? How do you like to communicate that you love someone?

2. In the sermon, Jeremy placed a lot of weight in understanding Ephesians 2:11-22 on Acts 19:21-41 and the account of Demetrius and the uproar that happened in Ephesus. Read the Acts passage with these questions in mind:
 - a. How popular was the worship of Artemis (cf. Acts 19:27-28)?
 - b. What kind of enmity was there between the Jews and those who worshipped Artemis (cf. Acts 19:33-34)?
 - c. How convinced were the Ephesians about how real Artemis was (cf. Acts 19:35-36)?
 - i. Given these insights (and maybe more that you see), how do these types of issues show up today when people believe in and talk about many paths that lead to God?

3. Most Christians believe that there is only one way to God – through Jesus (Ephesians 2:13-16; cf. John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:3-6). The accusation that is made against Christians is that we are too narrow-minded, and that we are arrogant to believe this way. Are we? Why or why not?
 - a. (Ephesians 2:13) Jeremy mentioned that if there are other ways that people can get to God other than Jesus and the significance of His death for us, then God the Father planned out one of the most evil things by sending His only Son to die. Do you agree or disagree with that? Explain.

4. Jeremy mentioned that all of us want a deep, solid, real relationship with God and with each other. Do you recall (in your outline) the three ways that Jesus builds us to be near to God now (Ephesians 2:17-22)?
 - a. Which one stands out to you as most profound, and why?
 - b. How do we get in the way of Jesus building us into the place where God dwells?
 - c. What does it mean to stop striving in our flesh to be near to God, and just live by faith in the Author and perfecter of our faith (cf. Hebrews 12:1-2; Galatians 2:20)? How do you do this in your life?