



## Discussion Questions

2:11–22

**Circumcision was the sign of the covenant God made with Abraham (Gen 17:10), but Paul says it is only a physical act (“made with hands”). What implications does this have for salvation of the Hebrews?**

*If Gentiles were “alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenant of hope,” was salvation available to them before Jesus? Discuss your answers.*

*What do you think Paul meant when he said the Gentiles were “far off” but are now “brought near” (v 13)?*

**If Jews and Gentile believers are now “made both one” (v 14), does that eliminate the differences between them?**

*How do we, as believers, negotiate the differences among people? What does Paul have to say about the basis of our fellowship (vv 19–21)?*

**Given all of this, why do you think biases and divisions along racial, ethnic, and linguistic lines still exist in the church?**