

## Saved to Connect

Paul has shared with us unexpected warnings: separation, exclusion, hopelessness, and homelessness. Today he shares with us unexpected blessings that come from trusting Jesus.

Scripture(s): Ephesians 2:13-21

Remember this - When Jesus saves us He also answers our \_\_\_\_\_ needs.

I. The first unexpected way that Jesus has blessed us when He became our Savior is the peace of human \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus unifies all who believe in Him into a single \_\_\_\_\_.

**Colossians 3:9-11** 9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him— 11 a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

II. The second unexpected way that Jesus has blessed us when He became our Savior is opening a previously \_\_\_\_\_ path to God. Because we have been made citizens of Heaven, we now have \_\_\_\_\_ access to God.

**Isaiah 57:17-21** 17 “Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry and struck him; I hid My face and was angry, And he went on turning away, in the way of his heart. 18 “I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and to his mourners, 19 Creating the praise of the lips. Peace, peace to him who is far and to him who is near,” Says the LORD, “and I will heal him.” 20 But the wicked are like the tossing sea, For it cannot be quiet, And its waters toss up refuse and mud. 21 “There is no peace,” says my God, “for the wicked.”

III. The third unexpected way that Jesus has blessed us when He became our Savior is spiritual \_\_\_\_\_. Our spiritual strength finds its power by being built upon the person of Jesus and the \_\_\_\_\_ testimony of His first followers. We are all connected.

**Hebrews 12:1-3** 1 Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Our challenge: Let Jesus bring you into this family that is your \_\_\_\_\_ home.

Ask these questions with Jesus...

1. Do I see people with compassion or indifference?
2. Am I building my assurance on Your promise or my effort?
3. Do I stand in my faith by myself or with my fellow believers throughout history?

**September 22, 2024**

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Jesus" 485

"Indescribable"

"Christ Is Risen"

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