

Get Involved: Pray



EMBRACE Prayer Group February 2013

Tribalism has always been an issue that divides. People feel comfortable with those who look and act as they do and this is true among believers as well. The early church opposed such attitudes and actions showing that Christ's purpose was to bring people from every tribe and tongue into a unity that was made possible by a common allegiance to Christ.

Ephesians 2:14 shows this purpose clearly:

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

This was not an easy process. Jewish believers had to make space for believers from other cultures and local churches were gradually composed of people from many different backgrounds.

Our challenge today is to make sure that our churches are guided by a Biblical culture which encourages people from other countries and cultures to feel welcome rather than a church culture which rejects anyone who is not like 'us'. The church of Jesus Christ that he has bought with his own blood is from every tribe and language and people and nation. Let us begin to build churches like that now!

Contributed by Pastor Philip Brown, Baptist Church, Newry

This month we give thanks for...

- The Gospel of Jesus Christ which can transform relationships and make 'the two one'
- Churches who reach out to others regardless of cultural differences or social standing

We pray for...

- Churches as they reach out to others who have recently made this place their home
 - People from other cultures as they share their lives and thinking with local churches
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Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and to pray with us throughout the month. Do you have a topic and/or an item of concern or joy that you would like to share with the EMBRACE Prayer Group? If so, please contact jenna@embraceni.org.

EMBRACE

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