



## Devotional \_\_\_\_\_

Read Ephesians 2:11-18

Ephesians 2:13

*But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

Think back to your life before Christ. Paul is reminding these people who were predominantly non-Jews how they were without hope, cut off from the promises of God, separated from God Himself without Christ. They were utterly lost and helpless to do anything about it, just like us.

But praise God that He acted! He didn't leave us in our darkness and sin, but broke through that barrier Himself through the sacrifice of His Son. Jesus' blood has brought us near to God. This is referring to the atonement. His blood was shed for us to pay the penalty for our sin and bring us into His family; it is available to all who receive Him.

We have been "brought near" to God in an eternal embrace, a divine hug. There is no more distance between us, no more separation. (Read Romans 8:38-39)

When your emotions let you down, and you feel distant from God, remind yourself of God's unbreakable covenant with you and say this: "I've been brought near by the blood of Christ."

What a relief that it doesn't depend on you! You've been brought into the very presence of God, made one with Him, through Jesus' sacrifice. We have eternal security, comfort knowing we belong to him. We are His and He is ours. We are included in God's family forever.

Let's not be selfish but share this good news with others so they can also be reconciled to God and brought into his eternal family with us.

### Application

1. What is God saying to you through this passage?
2. Know that Jesus' shed blood has brought you near to God, into His very presence. Say this: "**I've been brought near by the blood of Christ.**"
3. Let this reality sink in; then share this good news with someone else.

### Prayer

Father, we cannot ever thank you enough for your kindness towards us. Thank you for saving us and bringing us into your family. Give us the boldness to share your good news with others, **in Jesus' name. Amen.**