

# BRICK WALL



# Brick Wall

## Brief Description:

A key element of following Jesus are the relationships we as followers have with each other. It's these relationships among believers that make up the Church, all built on top of Christ. There's a lineage as well, stretching all the way back to the apostles to us today, and can continue through us to the future.

## When to use this shape:

Use this shape when your huddle is struggling to live IN and recognise the relationships around them and their responsibility to help those relationships flourish. Use this shape to help communicate the necessity of discipleship and the legacy we all have in making disciples and building up the Body of Christ.

### SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 2:10-22

*10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. 11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— 12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far of have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far of and peace to those who were near. 18 **For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.***

## Description:

Ephesians 2:10-22 shows a common issue that Paul needed to address in his letters to young churches where there was a mixing of people in the church from both Jewish and non-Jewish (Gentile) backgrounds. For the Jews, this new Christianity was an offshoot from their historic Jewish religion and Jewish traditions. For the Gentiles, this was a whole new deal. The two groups sometimes struggled to get along and understand each other. Paul sought hard to communicate the need for unity among them and he did so through several analogies. These analogies go on to communicate the need for unity among everyone in the church regardless of race, gender, background, and even spiritual gifting. In Ephesians chapter 2, Paul continues his teaching to the church in Ephesus with this notion of unity in mind. Here Paul uses the metaphor of a building to clarify what unity in Christ looks like. The foundation of this building is the apostles and prophets who helped set into motion the construction through their service and sacrifice. The most important part of the building, the aspect that guides the shape and supports the weight of the whole thing, is the cornerstone. Christ Jesus is the cornerstone. We all fit into this building as well. You and I are bricks in the wall of God's great work called the Church. Christ continues to be the most important part of the building, but we all play our part in this great structure. We are all connected to one another and need each other's support. The specific people in our life are not there by accident. Jesus told His disciples to love each other, and this is how others would know they were His disciples (John 13:34-35). Paul reminds us at the end of his letter to the



Ephesians that our battle is not against each other (Eph 6:12) and in 1 John 4 we are told that if we can't love each other as fellow believers, something is wrong - we are liars about who we are and what we believe. A huge part of keeping your Triangle balanced on the IN angle is taking account of the relationships with other believers God has placed in your life and choosing to engage those relationships in intentional ways.

<b>LEADING ▶</b>					
<b>PEERS ▶</b>			YOUR NAME		
<b>LEADERS ▶</b>			JESUS		

As you consider your place in the wall, who are the specific people you are connected to? Draw out a brick wall like the one above. Put your name in the center brick and write names of other Christians you are connected to in the other bricks. Consider these people in your life:

- Your leaders
    - Who was sent to you? Who is currently leading you to Jesus? Who do you look to in the church to lead you?
    - Write down the names 2-3 people who have impacted your life in this way.
  - Your peers
    - Who are you walking alongside? Who do you walk with? Who is shoulder-to-shoulder with you on mission?
    - These relationships are often the most overlooked, but equally as important. These people should be your day-by-day friends.
  - Those you lead
    - Who follows you? Who are you intentionally pursuing and influencing?
- Feel free to add more or less rows above or below, depending on your huddle. Feel free to expand the generations. Cast vision for what could be.

In a brick wall, a brick is connected in all directions. It is not simply connected just up or just down. They are connected to the bricks below, to then side, and above them. So as a member of the body of Christ, it is crucial that we press into all facets of our wall: above, beside, and below.



## Application questions to ask in huddle:

- What are the gaps in your wall?
- What are the weak connections in your wall?
- How will the next season of your life affect your wall?
- Where does your wall need to multiply?
- Are you carrying too much weight?
- How can you be building more layers?
- What do you think God wants your wall to look like? / What is God saying to you?

