



SERIES: Ephesians
SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD
Tuesday, January 19, 2021
Scripture: Ephesians 2: 17-18
TITLE: Special Delivery

What's the best thing you've ever had delivered to your home? For me, it all depends on the needs of the moment. But one thing I like seeing, is groceries on the doorstep. We have one of those club memberships, since we've got growing boys who eat a ton. So, we enjoy the weekly delivery of essentials.

Whatever you enjoy having delivered, the Apostle Paul reminds us that there is one delivery that GrubHub, Instacart, and even Amazon cannot beat.

He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near. ¹⁸ Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. (Eph. 2: 17-18, NLT)

Who doesn't want reconciliation? Who wouldn't want it delivered to your doorstep? This is what God offers the world today. Today, people are shouting at each other. They're shouting over each other. Countries are torn apart by war. Families are torn apart by politics. Souls are in anguish over a life of struggle and sin. "But now" – "But God": We've seen that language twice in Ephesians 2. In this chapter, we are reminded again and again that outside of the work of Christ, we were dead in our sins. We were estranged from God. We were far from God. We were hostile towards God and each other. "But now", as it says in verse 13; "But God," as it says in verse 4, we have peace with each other and with God.

If you're like me, you're thinking, "Won't this world get better? I mean, it can't get much worse." Well, friend, it can get better. You want revival. I want revival. But lasting and effective revival doesn't start with a preacher in a podcast, or an evangelist in a stadium. The best revival begins with you. It starts with you delivering the Good News of peace, to people who are far away from Jesus.

What we've discovered through research, is that only 1 out of 13 converts through the evangelistic crusades actually got saved. You see, effective revival comes through delivering the Gospel in everyday ways, through everyday people, to everyday souls. If you want peace around you, if you want a changed neighborhood, if you want a transformed workplace, if you want a reformed government, if you want a new day, get out there, and deliver the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That is the true source of peace with each other and with God.

My challenge for you is to do 2 things: pray and go. Pray for the lost in your life by name. Pray for open ears and open hearts to receive the Gospel message. Then go and deliver it. How?

Through lunch or a coffee. Through a conversation during an afternoon walk. Through a joint workout at the gym or fitness class. Through a game night in your basement.

Friend, God isn't done with this world yet. He has more people to call to Himself. And He's asking us to deliver the message. So let's pray, and let's go.