The Great Equalizer

Ephesians 2:11-22
The U.S. in 2050
New population projections from the U.S. Census Bureau:

439 million
Total population
- Current population 305 million
- Population in 2039 400 million

19 million
Population 85 and older, more than triple what it is today
- By 2030, one in five will be 65 or older

Minorities will be the majority

Adult population
- White 46%
- Asian, other 9%
- Hispanic 30%
- African-American 15%
- About 15 percent of current population is Hispanic

Percent of children that will be minorities
- Minorities 62%
- White 38%
- 44 percent of children are minorities today

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Graphic: Chicago Tribune
Big Idea: The gospel of Jesus Christ is the great equalizer.

Ephesians 2:11-22
“Education then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men, the balance-wheel of the social machinery.”

Horace Mann
“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

Declaration of Independence
Big Idea: The gospel of Jesus Christ is the great equalizer.

Ephesians 2:11-22
The gospel teaches us that...

1. **We are all aliens turned citizens**  v. 11-13

*Ephesians 2:11-22*
“No foreigner is to enter within the balustrade and embankment around the sanctuary. Whoever is caught will have himself to blame for his death which follows.”
1. We are all aliens turned citizens  v. 11-13

Ephesians 2:11-22
For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring...
The gospel teaches us that...

1. We are all aliens turned citizens  v. 11-13

- alienated, now citizens
- strangers, now family
- hopeless, now with covenant hope
For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.
But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.
The gospel teaches us that...

1. **We are all aliens turned citizens**  v. 11-13

2. **We are all enemies turned friends**  v. 14-18

- *unity*
- *peace*

*Ephesians 2:11-22*
Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.
The gospel teaches us that...

1. We are all aliens turned citizens  v. 11-13

2. We are all enemies turned friends  v. 14-18

- unity
- peace
- forgiveness

Ephesians 2:11-22
The gospel teaches us that...

1. We are all aliens turned citizens  v. 11-13

2. We are all enemies turned friends  v. 14-18

3. We are all broken people being built up  v. 19-22
   - foundation: apostles and prophets  ●  cornerstone: Christ

Ephesians 2:11-22
Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation...
And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
“as if one should melt down one statue of silver and another of lead, and the two together should come out gold.”

Chrysostom
The gospel teaches us that...

1. We are all aliens turned citizens v. 11-13

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3. We are all broken people being built up v. 19-22
   - foundation: apostles and prophets
   - cornerstone: Christ
   - builder: Holy Spirit
   - purpose: experiencing God’s presence

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