

Bible chat week starting 22 5 22

- Talk about your favourite spaces. Do you have special places that make you feel calm, peaceful or happy?
- Talk about your favourite sacred spaces? Do you have special places that help you feel closer to God?
- The sermon quoted Heinrich Zimmer, who talked of first-best things, second-best things and third-best things. The first-best can only be experienced and never adequately described in words. The second-best things - like poetry, theology or perhaps great sacred architecture - can point us to the first-best things. The third-best things are the everyday and ordinary things. What second best things help you experience the first best things? Is there a risk of confusing the second best with the first best?
- **Read Ephesians 2: 11 - 22.**
- God has brought peace across the division of Jew and Gentile. What does verse 14 make you think when Paul says, "For he himself is our peace"? How was that peace achieved?
- Discuss how buildings are used to stand for people in verses 19 - 22. What do these verses suggest about sacred space for Christians? How can we reconcile this with our desire to build bricks-and-mortar structures as sacred spaces?
- What makes a great worship space for you? If you were designing a new church building for worship, how would you brief the architect to design a sacred space?