



Faith Together at Home

Breaking Down Walls

Share Your
Faith

Gather Together

Gather in a cozy room around a world map or globe. Have someone close their eyes and point to a place on the map or spin the globe and then point to a place on it. Name the country (or closest country) that is pointed to. Offer a prayer for the people who live there. Share highs and lows from the day. Turn to Ephesians 2:13-14, 19 in a Bible or children's Bible. Read the text aloud and then send one family member out to knock on the door of the room where you are meeting. At first, pretend to ignore their knocks, and then invite them in. Talk about God throwing open the door and welcoming each of us into God's love.

Discover Together

Read verse 14 aloud again. In this dramatic verse, the wall we read about may refer to the wall in the temple that separated those who were allowed to go into the inner court (to get closer to God) from those who were not allowed to do so. Build some pillow walls and take turns knocking them down. God wants the church to be a place where no one is separated. Embracing the world means noticing and knocking down walls that divide people. Quickly put on some simple disguises, such as sunglasses, hats, or scarves. Read Ephesians 2:19 aloud ("So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God"). Throw off your disguises after hearing the verse and greet one another as friends in Christ. Talk about recognizing all people as members of God's household.

Talk Together

Ask these questions of each other:

- Talk about one thing that divides your family today. How can you break down that wall?
- How does your church welcome new people?
- When have you felt like a stranger? Who helped you feel welcome?

Dance Together

Music can break down the barriers that divide people. Play music of all different genres from different places around the world and dance among your broken-down pillow walls. Celebrate God's Word shared by people throughout the world.

Serve Together

Many organizations support immigrants and refugees in traveling to and arriving in our country. These organizations, along with the people they serve, need our prayers. Research an organization that breaks down walls by helping immigrants and refugees, pray for them, and discover other ways you can support their work.

Family Prayer

Say this prayer or blessing at the close of your time: **God of all places, help us break down the walls that divide people. Bring us together in Christ. Amen.**