

Paul the Preacher to the Gentiles - Ephesians 3:1-13

Topics:

Church, God, Grace, Holy Spirit, Humility, Insight, Jesus Christ, Power, Purpose, Serving, Suffering

Open It Questions

1. If you found buried treasure in your backyard, what would be your first course of action?

2. Do you like to figure things out for yourself or get help as soon as possible?

3. How good are you at explaining things to others?

Explore It Questions

4. Why did Paul go to prison? (3:1)

5. How familiar was Paul with the company of believers at Ephesus? (3:2)

6. What would the Ephesians have heard about Paul? (3:2-3)

7. To what mystery did Paul refer? (3:2-3)

8. How did Paul receive insight into the mystery of Christ? (3:4-5)

9. Who revealed the mystery of Christ to Paul? (3:5)

10. When was the mystery of Christ disclosed? (3:5)

11. How did Paul reveal the mystery of Christ? (3:6)

12. How was Paul enabled to be a servant? (3:7)

13. What was Paul's attitude to his call? (3:8)

14. What was Paul called to disclose? (3:9)

15. Through what medium was God’s wisdom communicated? (3:10)

16. How did God accomplish His plan? (3:11)

17. In light of God’s work, how may believers approach Him? (3:11-12)

18. Why were Paul’s sufferings the glory of the Ephesians? (3:13)

Get It Questions

19. How do you think Gentile believers responded to Paul's explanation of "the mystery of Christ"?

20. How should we all be involved in evangelism?

21. How can you serve others who need salvation?

22. What helps you to serve the Lord when it is inconvenient, awkward, or painful for you?

23. What gives you confidence and freedom in approaching God?

24. How is sharing the gospel with someone like discovering priceless treasure?

Apply It Questions

25. In the days ahead, what can you do to help outsiders feel welcome in your church?

26. What can you do this week to help others understand the mystery of Christ's provision for sin?

27. What can you do this week to develop a patient spirit so that you will not become discouraged by suffering?

Adult Questions for LESSON Maker.

Letter to the Ephesians

Paul the Preacher to the Gentiles

Ephesians 3:1-13



New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
Southfield, MI 48033

Facilitators

Dr. David L. Roberson, D.Min., Pastor
Rev. Valerie L. Crump, MAPT/CF/CBC
Special Assistant to the Pastor

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:1-13

Topics

Church

God

Grace

Holy Spirit

Humility

Insight

Jesus Christ

Power

Purpose

Serving

Suffering

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:1-3

Open It Questions

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:1

Open It Questions

1. If you found buried treasure in your backyard, what would be your first course of action?

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:2

Open It Questions

2. Do you like to figure things out for yourself or get help as soon as possible?

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:3

Open It Questions

3. How good are you at explaining things to others?

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:1-13

Scripture Reading
Ephesians 3:1-13

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:1-13

Introduction

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:1-13

Introduction

Paul had been arrested in Jerusalem and, eventually, had been imprisoned because he took a stand for the equality of Jews and Gentiles as Christians (believers in Christ). The Jewish antagonists saw Paul's teaching as radical and destructive to Temple practices. Thus, Paul was writing here that he had been imprisoned for the sake of Gentiles.

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:4-13

Explore It Questions

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:1
Paul Imprisoned

4. Why did Paul go to prison? ([3:1](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:1

Paul Imprisoned

“For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles—” (3:1 NKJV)

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:2

Paul's Familiarity with Ephesian Believers

5. How familiar was Paul with the company of believers at Ephesus?
([3:2](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:2

Paul's Familiarity with Ephesian Believers

“...if indeed you have heard of the dispensation [privilege or allowance] of the grace of God which was given to me for you [the Gentiles],...” (3:2 NKJV).

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:2-3

The Ephesians' Knowledge of Paul

6. What would the Ephesians have heard about Paul? ([3:2-3](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:2

The Ephesians' Knowledge of Paul

² Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ... **(3:2 NIV)**

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:3
The Mystery

7. To what mystery did Paul refer?
([3:3](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:3

The Mystery

“...that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly” (3:3 NIV).

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:4-5

Paul Gets Insight Into the Mystery

8. How did Paul receive insight into the mystery of Christ? ([3:4-5](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:4-5

Paul Gets Insight Into the Mystery

- ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,
- ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. (3:4-5 NIV)

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:5
Revealer of the Mystery

9. Who revealed the mystery of Christ to Paul? ([3:5](#))

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:5
Revealer of the Mystery

“...which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:” (3:5 NKJV)

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:5
Revealer of the Mystery

10. When was the mystery of Christ disclosed? ([3:5](#))

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:5
Revealer of the Mystery

“...which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:” **(3:5 NKJV)**

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:6
How Paul Revealed the Mystery

11. How did Paul reveal the mystery of Christ? ([3:6](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:6

How Paul Revealed the Mystery

“...that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,” (3:6 NKJV)

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:7
Paul Enabled to Be a Servant

12. How was Paul enabled to be a servant? ([3:7](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:7

Paul Enabled to Be a Servant

“...of which I became a minister [servant] according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His [God’s] power” (3:7 NKJV).

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:8
Paul's Attitude to His Call

13. What was Paul's attitude to his call? ([3:8](#))

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:8
Paul's Attitude to His Call

Humility

“To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,” (3:8 NKJV)

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:9

Paul's Disclosure

14. What was Paul called to disclose?
([3:9](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:9

Paul's Disclosure

“...and to make all see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;” (3:9 NKJV)

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:10

God's Mode of Communicating His Wisdom

15. Through what medium was God's wisdom communicated? ([3:10](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:10

God's Mode of Communicating His Wisdom

“...to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*, ” (3:10 NKJV)

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:11
How God Accomplished His Plan

16. How did God accomplish His plan? ([3:11](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:11

How God Accomplished His Plan

“...according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,” (3:11 NKJV)

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:12

How Believers May Approach God

17. In light of God's work, how may believers approach Him? ([3:12](#))

Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 3:12

How Believers May Approach God

“...in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him” (3:12 NKJV).

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:13
The Glory of Paul's Sufferings

18. Why were Paul's sufferings the glory of the Ephesians? ([3:13](#))

Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 3:13
The Glory of Paul's Sufferings

“Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory” **(3:13 NKJV)**.

Letter to the Ephesians

Paul the Preacher to the Gentiles

Ephesians 3:1-13

Get It and Apply Questions

19-27

(See Handout)





PAUL'S POWERFUL PRAYER

NEXT LESSON
“A Prayer for the Ephesians”
Ephesians 3:14-21