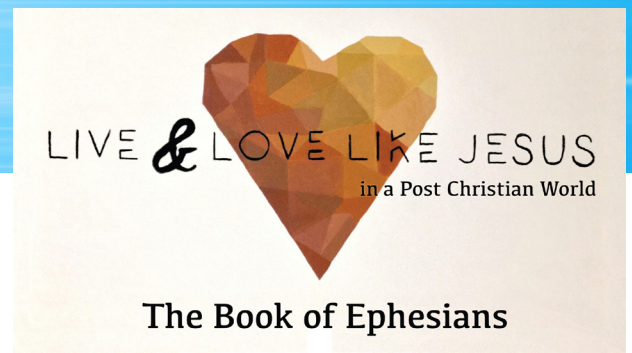


Discussion Questions

December 4, 2022



Ephesians 3:1-11 The Great Mystery Revealed - Jesus Came for ALL

1. Read Ephesians 3:1-11

Describe what the Great Mystery is. It has 3 parts.

Why would this be so significant to the Ephesian Believers?

2. Re-read Ephesians 3:7-10

Why do you think Paul emphasizes that he is the least of the least?

What is the role of the church in verse 10?

How does fellowship in Christ among diverse people groups reveal the great wisdom of God, and proclaim His great power?

3. James shared in verse 6, that Paul creates a new word, *sússōmos*, combining the Greek words of Body & Together to say that Jesus makes the two groups one new "together body." What implications does this have for us today?

4. Discuss who the "gentiles"/outsiders are in and around your life today? What is at least one step that could be taken towards sharing the unsearchable riches of Christ with one of them this week?



Ephesians 3:1-11

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 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.

This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold [multi-faceted] wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord

Ephesians 3:6 NIV

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Ephesians 3:6 The Message

The mystery is that people who have never heard of God and those who have heard of him all their lives (what I've been calling outsiders and insiders) stand on the same ground before God. They get the same offer, same help, same promises in Christ Jesus.

Jereme - Late 300's - Epistle to the Ephesians

It is not that some possession is divided among us but that God himself in his fullness is our inheritance and possession.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Only so much do I know, as I have lived. Instantly we know whose words are loaded with life, and whose not.

Dallas Willard

We often think that it's sinners that need grace so much, because we have shrink-wrapped grace into the forgiveness of sin, but grace is way more than that. It is the power of life, and the reality is that saints burn more grace than sinners ever could. Saints burn grace like a 747 burns jet fuel."

Matthew 25:40

...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Dr Kent Hughes - Ephesians: The Mystery of the Body of Christ

The bottom line is, the Church is not an option for believers, nor is supporting it an option. I am not saying you have to go to church to be a Christian, but you also do not have to go home to be married. However, if you do not frequent your home, your relationship will be in jeopardy. ... participation in your local church is not an option. Paul's gospel was Christ and the Church.