



Ministry
Small Group Questions
Ephesians 3:1-13
July 13

Community

- Surprise parties: Love 'em or hate 'em?
- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- What is one thing you would do differently this week as a result of this message?

Core: Read Ephesians 3:1-13

1. In what ways is Paul a "prisoner of Christ?" Would you ever describe yourself in that way? Why? Why not?
2. What is the mystery that Paul is talking about? If you were a first century Jew, what would your reaction to gentiles being included so "easily" into the family of God? Are there any modern day equivalents in the church to this "mystery?"
3. In verse 6, Paul uses three words to describe the new Christians in Ephesus. The words are "fellow heirs," "members of the same body" and "partakers of the promise." What do each of these descriptions mean for us today?
4. Paul uses the word "grace" in an interesting way in verses 7-9. What is the grace given to Paul in these verses? What is the grace given to you in your life?

5. Paul mentions that the ministry he had to the Gentiles was given to him by God. Does it seem strange to you that something God gave to Paul led to his physical hardship? How do you reconcile this notion with the picture of God blessing us — the main theme of Ephesians chapter one?
6. What do you think Paul means by the “unsearchable riches of Christ?” Have you experienced these riches in your own life? In what way?
7. According to verse 10, what is the role of the Church? How can Wallula fulfill this role in a bigger way?
8. Paul says that our faith in Jesus results in confidence to come before God. Do you feel confident as you approach God? Why? Why not? What changes might need to take place in our walk with Jesus to feel more confident in our prayer lives?
9. Paul asks the Ephesians not to lose heart, even though he is in prison, reassuring them that his hardship is for their glory. Have you ever considered that the trials you face in life, might be for someone else's benefit? How does that notion change your perspective on current or potential struggles you might face?

Pray to Close