

# Ephesians 3

## Intro

- Share your summary of Ephesians 3.
- What is Paul's revelation? (*Look at 1 on 1 #1 for the answer*)

## Read Ephesians 3:1-13

- Why do you think Paul desires for the churches to understand his revelation? (Verse 4)
- What does it mean that we are "heirs?" (Verse 6)
- Why might Paul consider it part of God's "grace" that he can share this new revelation with people? (Verse 8)
- Do you see it as a privilege or a chore to share the gospel with others? Why is it a privilege?
- What was God's plan to share this revelation? What does that reveal about His heart? (Verse 10)

*It was through the sacrifice of Jesus that hostility was put to death and that true unity is available to all. However, although Jesus completed the work on the cross, He did not share this good news with everyone in the world. He has graciously given us the responsibility to partner with Him in helping the entire world know that they can be unified children of God by following Jesus. As Paul says, "His intent was that now, through the church," this revelation would be made known to all of creation.*

- Are you taking ownership of the responsibility that Jesus has given to you to share the gospel? Explain.
- Paul sees everything through the lens of his revelation. Therefore, he delights in his sufferings if it means that the churches live in unity of the gospel (Verse 13). What are you willing to do for others to experience the unity of the gospel? What is outside your comfort zone?

## Read Ephesians 3:14-21

- Why do you think Paul wants his audience to be "strengthened with power through the Spirit?" (Verse 16)
- How would you like to be strengthened by the Holy Spirit?
- What do you think it means to grasp how "wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ?" (Verse 18)
- What does it mean that the love of Christ "surpasses knowledge?" (Verse 19)
- What do you think Paul is thinking of when he says that Christ can do immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine? (Verse 20)

## Concluding Questions:

- Why is it important for us to take ownership in sharing the gospel?

- What reservations do you have in sharing the gospel? How do you think God would respond to that?
- How can finding common ground with someone you don't normally mesh with enrich your understanding of the love of Christ?

**Further Study Opportunities (Optional)**

- Where do you see the concept of God's "chosen" people?
- Where do you see the concept of "inheritance?"
- Where do you see Paul's "temple" language?

**Do For Next Week:**

- Read Ephesians 1-4:16 in one sitting.
- Give a 1-2 sentence summary of Ephesians 4:1-16.