

Open It

1. Do you like to figure things out for yourself or get help as soon as possible?
2. How good are you at explaining things to others?

Ephesians 3:1–13 (ESV)

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—

²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you,

³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.

⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ,

⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.

⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power.

⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things,

¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord,

¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

¹³So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Explore It

3. What would the Ephesians have heard about Paul? (3:2–3)
4. To what mystery did Paul refer? (3:2–3)
5. How did Paul receive insight into the mystery of Christ? (3:4–5)
6. How did Paul reveal the mystery of Christ? (3:6)
7. How was Paul enabled to be a servant? (3:7)
8. What was Paul’s attitude to his call? (3:8)
9. What was Paul called to disclose? (3:9)
10. Through what medium was God’s wisdom communicated? (3:10)
11. How did God accomplish His plan? (3:11)
12. In light of God’s work, how may believers approach Him? (3:11–12)
13. Why were Paul’s sufferings the glory of the Ephesians? (3:13)

Get It

14. What gives you confidence and freedom in approaching God?
15. How is sharing the gospel with someone like discovering priceless treasure?

Apply It

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