

To me the last question on February 25th study sheet was challenging. To realize that through the church the wisdom of God was brought to expression for the world to see but also the heavenly beings. Reason to rejoice.

1. Read 3:11 and then record what you think the "eternal purpose" might be. _____

What about that verse amazes you? _____

2. I Peter 1:10-12 After you read this, what picture comes to your mind? _____

What do you realize after reading this? _____

How were you encouraged by reading this? _____

The church has eternal roots in the purpose and plan of God!! We are the church!!

3. Because Christ is eternal God and temporal man, what benefit do we have? (3:12) _____

4. If you would list the most difficult challenge you have in your life, what would that be? _____

How does what Paul says in 3:13 help you handle that challenge? _____

Think on this: before the events of Genesis 1:1 the universe of time and space in motion, God had planned to bring about salvation and unity through Christ in the church. The Father decreed it, the Son implemented it, and the Spirit empowered it. Chuck Swindoll

5. Read Col. 1:17-22. List in the following verses all that Christ has done.

a. v. 17 _____

b. v. 18a. _____ 18b. _____

c. v. 19 _____ v. 20 _____

v. 22 _____

Knowing all those things Christ has done, how do you feel about God and Christ? _____

6. Because the church is a product of God's reconciling work. Define what you think each church truth means.

a. How is the church central to history? _____

b. How is the church central to the gospel? _____

c. How is the church central to the way you live your life, especially when times get challenging? _____

7. Read 3:13 and then read Matt. 16:24. How are these two verses connected? _____

How do you think the Ephesians would have received comfort from what Paul wrote in Eph. 3:13? _____

Get ready for Paul to show us the heart of worship in next week's lesson.