

As we finished last week, we had barely gotten into discussing the mystery of Christ. What a rich endeavor for us to follow. The Greek word *musterion*, means something that is beyond natural knowledge, but has been opened to us by divine revelation through the Holy Spirit.

1. When you say mystery, what does your mind think that means? \_\_\_\_\_  
After reading the definition of the word mystery at the top of the page, where do the two definitions part ways? \_\_\_\_\_

2. List one thing you remember about the mystery we talked about in our last class. \_\_\_\_\_

Paul spends from Eph. 3:2-13 creating one long run on sentence explaining the mystery of the church. This is the key to unlocking the mystery of God that Paul had been divinely commissioned to declare. One commentator said, in fact, Paul's boldness to stand for the truthfulness of this mystery was the reason he was in prison.

3. Go back to Eph. 3:3. How was the mystery made known to Paul? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Eph. 3:6 These were often fighting words in Paul's day. What mystery could so shake people up? \_\_\_\_\_

Gal. 3:28 says \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think this truth has the power to create conflict? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Eph. 3:7 Read this verse and explain how Paul have the authority to proclaim such mysteries? \_\_\_\_\_

If I had been sitting in Paul's shoes, I think I would have considered this gift a burden. How do you think Paul considered his gift of preaching and teaching? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Many would have considered the most important of the preachers no. How does Paul view himself? (Eph. 3:8) \_\_\_\_\_

Read I Cor. 15:9 What does Paul know about himself? \_\_\_\_\_

What caused him to have hope and a future? (I Co. 15:10) \_\_\_\_\_

What causes you to have hope and future, even when you know you have not been the perfect person? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What had God chosen Paul to do \_\_\_\_\_

8. Eph. 3:9-10 will take some breaking down to understand what is being said. First where had this mysterious plan been previously? (Eph. 3:9) \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think the Old Testament Jews would have had a difficult time understanding this mystery? \_\_\_\_\_

9. According to Eph. 3:10 what is now functioning in the world that is revealing God's wisdom and purpose? \_\_\_\_\_ Why do you think that this is the required manifestation that will cause the world to finally understand the mystery? \_\_\_\_\_