

A Pointless Digression?

Andrew Severinsen – Ephesians 3:1-13
October 27, 2019

Where we've been: All of chapter 2 portrays the exercise of **Christ's restoring power** on behalf of the church.

Continuing the flow of thought into chapter 3...

Big Idea: Paul moves to pray, only to get distracted by the nature of his own calling. In a theologically rich digression, Paul presents to the readers his right to write to them.

- **The Gentiles, then and now**

- **And their Apostle**

- **A Pointless digression? Or epitome of the triumph of God in Christ?**

GRACE GROUP Discussion Questions

Ephesians 3:1-13 (week of Oct 27, 2019)

Spend some time catching up.

Spend some time in the text.

- Paul had been a prisoner both in Ceasaera and Rome over a period of 5 years because of his faith in Christ.
 - Whose prisoner did Paul consider himself to be (according to 3:1) and what does that tell you about him?
 - For what reason was Paul eager to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles? Look back to Ephesians chapter 2, as well as Romans 1:1-17, for insight.
 - As you read Ephesians 3:1-13, what is Paul's calling in life?
- What do you know about Paul's background?
 - How do his attitudes and actions now compare with his attitudes and actions before he knew Christ?
- How have you seen the Lord change your heart and attitude as you have walked with Him?
 - How have your priorities changed after knowing Christ?
 - What should you do if you do not see changes in your life, but want to?
- "Mystery" in the context of the New Testament means something God had not revealed until now. We would not have come to know about it had God not chosen to reveal it.
 - Look closely at Ephesians 3:1-7. What specifically is the mystery that Paul is referring to?
 - Look at Ephesians 3:7-10. In addition to bringing the Gospel to the Gentiles, what else did God call Paul to do? For what purpose?
- Look closely at Eph 2:18 and 3:12. What special privilege to we have as believers?
 - How does this motivate or encourage you?

Spend some time sharing and praying together.

- Pray for each other.