



The Mystery #24

Ephesians 3:1-13

The Big Reveal

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which 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. 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

7 Of 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. 8 To 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, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, 10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. 13 So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is it so destructive to have the wrong idea about the mystery of God? What damage have you seen, or done by having the wrong perspective on God’s mystery?
2. What does it mean, and look like, to battle against the sovereignty of God? Are you doing this?
3. How are you suffering right now? Is it suffering for doing good, or suffering for selfishness?
4. Can you stand in difficult circumstances and say to yourself, “ I would not be here unless God wanted me here?” When have you done this recently? How does God want you to do that right now?
5. How do these questions relate to your testimony? Is your testimony credible?
6. How can this week’s message and life group help you to imitate Paul as he imitates Christ? What will that look like for you?