

Ephesians 3

Discussion Guide

Pre-discussion Question

Have you ever found yourself in a group where you didn't quite feel that you entirely belonged? What was your experience?

RSR: Read, Summarize, React

Read: Read through the chapter silently or together or listen to it.

Summarize: Using your own words, summarize the chapter. In this chapter, what is the *one main idea or goal* Paul is trying to express or accomplish, either directly or through example?

React:

Likes: Ideas/phrases you particularly like

Questions: Ideas/phrases that confuse you or bring up questions

Connections: Does this passage remind you of another Bible passage or story or something in the culture or in your own life?

Applications: What life principles do you see here? How can you apply this chapter to your own life? How can we apply this chapter to life in the Body of Messiah?

Specific Questions

1. How does Paul “pull rank” in this chapter, starting with the first verse, placing himself in a somewhat elevated position so as to be heard? How does he also “temper” his elevating of himself so that he doesn't appear prideful?
2. What does Paul explain is the “mystery” or “secret” of the Gospel? Why would he call it a “mystery/secret”? How does Paul's framing of the Gospel as a long-held secret revealed to their generation help to establish the young Believers in the faith?
3. Speak to the *growth progression* we see spelled out in Paul's prayer:
 - 1) Spirit empowerment to be rooted in the love of Messiah
 - 2) Comprehending the love of Messiah
 - 3) Experiencing the love of Messiah that surpasses knowledge
 - 4) Being filled with the fullness of God