

**1. Paul, a prisoner for Christ**

- a) Ephesians 3:1 What does the opening verse of this chapter reveal about Paul’s current circumstances?
- b) Is this expression “a prisoner of Christ Jesus” literal, figurative or both? Ephesians 6:20, Philippians 1:3-7
- c) How did God use Paul’s imprisonment for the advancement of the Gospel? (He wrote 4 Prison Epistles. See also Philippians 1:12-14)
- d) How does Paul’s prison experience provide guidance and encouragement when we face hardships or persecution?

**2. Paul, a proclaimer of the Gospel to the Gentiles**

- a) Ephesians 3:1 When did the Apostle Paul come to the realization that God had given him a special mission to share the Gospel with the Gentiles? Acts 9:15, 13:14-16, 42-52
- b) What was the “mystery” that was revealed to Paul to share with the Gentiles? Ephesians 3:1-8
- c) Why did Paul mention “the holy apostles and prophets” when speaking about the mystery of Christ? John 5:39-40, Luke 24:13-15, 25-26, Acts 2:36-39, 5:42, etc.
- d) Were there also prophets in the early Christian church, in addition to the apostles? Ephesians 4:11-12. Examples? Acts 21:8-11
- e) Ephesians 3:6 Why was the mystery of the Gospel an amazing revelation to the Gentiles?

- f) Who are some people we tend to exclude when seeking to share the Good News about Jesus?

**3. The Church, a manifestation of God’s wisdom**

- a) What is the meaning of the word “church”? (ecclesia) 1 Peter 2:9
- b) Ephesians 3:8-13 How is the church is manifestation of God’s wisdom?
- c) Who are “the principalities and powers in heavenly places” that witness the manifestation of God’s wisdom in the church? Ephesians 6:10-12
- d) What does this revelation convey to the powers of darkness? Ephesians 1:3,10, Revelation 12:12

**4. Paul’s prayer for Christians in Ephesus and for us**

- a) Ephesians 3:14-19 What are your thoughts about this remarkable prayer by the Apostle Paul?
- b) How does Christ dwell in our hearts through faith? John 14:23, 15-18, Galatians 2:20-21, etc.
- c) When did you first realize the importance of inviting Christ to dwell in your heart?
- d) Ephesians 3:20-21 What is your reaction to Paul’s doxology of praise to God?

