

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

August 14, 2022

This week's Family Devotional Guide will focus on our Scripture reading for our August 14th worship service, Ephesians 3:1-13. In this passage, Paul mentions that he was called to be a minister by God's gifting, and he lived his life for the spread of the gospel. As we think about spiritual gifts, this passage should remind us to be gospel-centered people who use our gifts to further the message of the gospel for God's glory.

DAY 1

- **Scripture:** Ephesians 3:1-6
- **Discussion:** In this passage, the apostle Paul refers to his ministry as a stewardship. Why is that important? He also uses the term "mystery," which refers to things that were not fully revealed in the Old Testament (i.e. hinted at) that we understand much better as revealed to us in the New Testament. What is the significance of his use of the word "mystery?"
- **Song:** "Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery" by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa & Michael Bleecker

DAY 2

- **Scripture:** Ephesians 3:7-10
- **Discussion:** Why was it important for the apostle Paul to view his ministry as a gift of God's grace and according to God's divine enabling ("by the working of his power")? How should God's grace and power affect how we minister to others and use our spiritual gifts? Discuss the priority of evangelism in the ministry of the apostle Paul in verses 8-10.
- **Song:** "Yet Not I but through Christ in Me" by Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren & Rich Thompson

DAY 3

- **Scripture:** Ephesians 3:11-13
- **Discussion:** The apostle Paul was mindful that his ministry and gifting were according to God's purpose, not his own. How does knowing that God has a plan ("eternal purpose") affect our ability to come to God with boldness and confidence (v. 12)? How does having confidence in God's plan encourage us when we suffer (v. 13)?
- **Song:** "Before the Throne of God Above" by Charitie Lees Bancroft & Vikki Cook