



Northland Christian Church

EPHESIANS 3:7-13 •

MAIN POINT

The Church is God's wisdom and beauty on display. The Church is God's plan to bless and transform the world through the Gospel.

CONNECTION AND INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

What is the greatest gift you ever gave?

If you could either receive an amazing gift or give one, which would you choose? Why?

ENGAGING AND UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular

topic. **ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ EPHESIANS 3:7-13**

What does this passage teach us about proper motivation and attitude in ministry? What would a wrong attitude toward ministry look like?

Why does Paul call himself the least of all saints?

Since he was the "least of all saints", how come he could accomplish so much for God? What principles can we learn from this?

How does knowing the truths of God's mystery embolden and encourage us to approach the Lord?

Tony Merida says: *"There is more going on with the church than meets the eye. If you are part of the church, then you are part of a cosmic sermon that is being preached to spiritual rulers and authorities."*

What does this quote bring to your mind and heart? How does it match up to your view of the Church?

ASK A VOLUNTEER TO RE-READ EPHESIANS 3:12-13

How do these verses impact your view of God and His thoughts toward you?

Thomas Keating said: *"We rarely think of the air we breathe, yet it is in us and around us all the time. In similar fashion, the presence of God penetrates us, is all around us, is always embracing us."*

How does this quote affect you or inform you?

APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

How does the power of the Holy Spirit working through God's grace enable us to do things that are well beyond our own abilities?

We see the words "gift", "grace" and "working of His power" in this passage. How can these truths influence us when we seek to do ministry?

Are you a watcher or a participator? Are you part of the audience or one of the workers? Why? What work is God calling you to do for and with Him?

This passage reminds us that God's grace flows into our lives not only for our own benefit but also for the benefit of others. Paul clearly saw how he fit into the big picture of God's plan. How do you see yourself fitting in?

PRAYER