



June 1, 2025

United - Ephesians 3:1-6 A Brilliant Bio

Summary: In chapter three, Paul the author, pauses to give a snapshot of his life and current conditions to his readers. In this text we get a window into the mind and heart of one of the most influential leaders in world history and an example of a sold out believer for Jesus.

Scripture – Ephesians 3:1-6; Matthew 16:18; 1 Timothy 3:15; John 10:10, 16:30; Ephesians 3:20; 2 Timothy 3:12, 2:2; 1 Corinthians 2:9; 1 Peter 4:12-13; Acts 9:20-28, 22:23; Genesis 18:17-19; John 7:38; Matthew 20:1-16

Application

1. Bonhoeffer chose to return to danger for the sake of his friends and the church. Is there a situation in your life where you are being called to choose sacrifice over comfort? What would it look like to take a courageous step this week?
2. The sermon challenged the idea that faithfulness always leads to prosperity. Have you ever felt disappointed with God when things didn't go your way? How did you respond, and what might it look like to trust God in the "valley" seasons?
3. "Selective Scriptural Syndrome" is the tendency to only read or believe the easy parts of the Bible. Are there parts of Scripture you tend to avoid? What is one "un-underlined" passage you could read and reflect on this week?
4. The Sea of Galilee is full of life because it gives out what it receives. In what ways are you currently sharing God's grace, insight, or blessings with others? Is there something you've been "containing" that you could start passing on?
5. The Gospel's generosity can offend our sense of fairness. Can you think of a time when you struggled to rejoice in God's blessing to someone else? How can you practice celebrating God's grace to others, even when it feels unfair?
6. Communion is meant to recalibrate our hearts to Christ's sacrifice and God's generosity. How might you use communion or another spiritual practice this week to remind yourself of God's grace to you and to others?
7. Paul and Bonhoeffer both lived out their faith in costly, visible ways. What is one practical action you can take this week to make your faith visible—not just in words, but in sacrificial love or service?

