

June 8, 2025

United - Ephesians 3:7-13 A Believing Leader

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 3:7-13; 1 Corinthians 15:9-10, 4:7; 2 Samuel 7:18; Matthew 20:20-27; Colossians 2:15; Ephesians 6:12; Job 1; John 14:1; Romans 8:28

Built on Grace (3:7)

1. Grace is not opposed to effort; it is opposed to earning." The sermon said grace is the foundation, not a free pass. In what areas of your life are you tempted to be passive or entitled, rather than grateful and diligent because of God's grace?

Humbled by Life (3:8)

- 2. Paul's leadership was marked by humility and a willingness to serve, even in hard or "low" tasks. Can you share a recent time when you were asked to do something that felt beneath you?
- 3. Think about the gifts, opportunities, or "open doors" in your life. How can you intentionally use them to serve others this month, rather than seeking recognition or personal gain?

Big God (3:9)

4. When you face situations that are out of your control, do you tend to respond with anxiety, frustration, or trust? What is one practical way you can remind yourself of God's sovereignty this week?

Never Lose Heart (3:13)

- 5. The church's unity and perseverance are a spiritual witness. Is there a relationship or situation in your church or life where you need to pursue forgiveness, reconciliation, or unity?
- 6. The sermon challenged the "Goldilocks" mentality—always needing perfect conditions to be content. Where in your life do you find yourself waiting for things to be "just right" before you feel grateful or joyful? How could a win/win, Romans 8:28 perspective change your attitude this week?
- 7. The sermon described spiritual victory as remaining faithful and grateful even in suffering.

 Is there a hardship you're facing right now where you need to shift your focus from "escaping" to "enduring with faith"?