Crossroads International Church Matthew Lyle

Series: Ephesians: Inconceivable Blessings, Incredible Purpose 2025-08-10

**From Mystery to Manifest**

***Eph 3:1-13***

**Question:** How do you begin to live out a purpose that was once hidden for ages, revealed through Christ, and now entrusted to the Church to display to the world?

1. **Entrusted with the Mystery** (1–6)

 a. The call of Paul to the mystery (1-4)

* *Paul was able to Speak — and Write — with Authority, because he Lived with Humility.*

b. The plan of the mystery (5-6).

* *The gospel was Veiled — or Hidden — until God Chose to Reveal it.*

**Truth**: The Gospel was God’s eternal plan and includes people of every background.

**Implication**: You are not an afterthought in God’s story—you are a recipient of the mystery.

We don’t invent our purpose—we humbly receive it from revelation.

2. **Empowered for the Mission** (7–9)

 a. The preaching of the mystery (7-9).

* *Paul was Empowered by Grace to Proclaim the Mystery.*

**Truth**: God uses weak people to reveal an eternal purpose**.**

**Implication**: You don’t have to be impressive—just faithful to make the mystery visible.

We serve faithfully and with boldness because grace equips us.

3. **Established to be Displayed** (10–13)

a. The purpose of the mystery (10-11).

* *The Church was Established to Display God’s Wisdom*

b. The privilege of the mystery (12-13).

* *In Christ, We Have Bold and Confident Access to God*

**Truth**: Our unity, confidence, and perseverance are part of God’s cosmic display of His wisdom.

**Implication**: Don’t lose heart—your role matters in heaven’s story.

We are God’s living display of His wisdom and grace.

**Answer:** We live out God’s revealed purpose by receiving it humbly, serving it faithfully, and displaying it boldly through the Church.

Application: Displaying God’s Purpose Boldly (see back)

**Displaying God’s Purpose Boldly**

**Speak the Gospel Clearly, Even When Unpopular**

Share the truth of Christ with love and clarity, even if it challenges cultural norms or personal comfort.

*Example:* Initiating spiritual conversations at work, in your neighborhood, or with friends—not just when it’s “safe.”

**Live in Unifying Love Across Boundaries**

The “mystery” revealed in Ephesians includes Jew and Gentile together—bold display means intentionally crossing divides (ethnic, cultural, social, political) in visible fellowship.

*Example:* Show hospitality to people different from you, joining in service with believers from other backgrounds.

**Demonstrate Grace in the Face of Opposition**

Boldness is not aggression—it’s staying gracious and joyful under pressure.

*Example:* Responding with kindness when your faith is mocked or misunderstood.

**Prioritize God’s Mission Over Personal Comfort**

Paul’s chains in this passage didn’t silence him—they amplified the message.

*Example:* Choosing ministry, generosity, or service that costs you time, energy, or status.

**Showcase God’s Wisdom Through the Church’s Life**

Boldness is not just personal; it’s communal—the Church together displays God’s wisdom to the “rulers and authorities” (v. 10).

*Example:* Participating actively in church life so the world sees unity, mercy, and joy in action.

* Participate in church activities (picnics, group studies, church retreat)
* Join (or start) a small group
* Invite friends and family to church and church events