

**LESSON #2      A COMPARISON OF SPIRITUAL CONDITIONS      Ephesians 2:1-22**

**Principle: God's power brings the spiritually dead to spiritual life and unites believers into one body.**

**Use this lesson outline to record your notes as you watch the Lesson 2 video.**

**I.      PROBLEM OF NATURAL MAN                      2:1-3**

- **Man is born separated from God and under His wrath, unable and unwilling to do anything about his sinful condition.**

**II.      PROVISION OF GOD                              2:4-10**

- **God alone can breathe spiritual life into sinful people so they can respond to Him in faith.**

**III.      GOD'S PURPOSE IN CHRIST                              2:11-22**

- **God has brought His people together in Christ that they might live in unity and peace with one another.**

**LESSON #3      THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL REVEALED      Ephesians 3:1-21**

**Subject: Paul prays for the Ephesians' empowerment of their riches.**

**Please answer these lesson questions for next week prior to watching the Lesson 3 video.**

**Review**

1. What helped you in the lecture on Ephesians 2?

**Read Ephesians 3:1-6      The Mystery Revealed**

Verses 2-13 can be seen as a parenthesis between Paul's discussion of the grand purpose God has for the church in chapter 2 and his prayer for it at the end of chapter 3. In this parenthesis he marvels at the great mystery of this purpose.

2. What does Paul mean when he calls himself a "prisoner of Jesus Christ?"
3. What does being given the administration of God's grace have to do with his being a prisoner of Jesus Christ?
4. Explain the mystery that had been revealed to Paul and he was now making known to others.
5. What had not been understood about this mystery in the past? See Acts. 2:1-41 and Acts 10:1-48 for your answer.

**Read Ephesians 3:7-9      The Mystery Proclaimed**

6. How does Paul see himself in relationship to this mystery?
7. How does the way Paul sees himself affect the way you look at yourself?

**Read Ephesians 3:10-13      The Mystery's Purpose**

8. What is God's purpose for the church according to these verses?
9. As you think about your involvement in your church, how are your activities directed toward God's purpose? Are there any changes you need to make?

10. What does Paul say is the great privilege of those who are in Christ Jesus?

**Read Ephesians 3:14-21**

**Paul's prayer**

Paul now picks up his previous thought from chapter 2 in which he had reminded his readers of what they are in Christ, to once again pray for them - that they would experience the empowerment that is already theirs.

11. Going back to chapter 2, what are some of the things Christ has done for the believer? Give the verses.

12. What is meaningful to you about Paul's physical position in prayer? See also Psalm 95:1-6, Daniel 6:10 and Acts 20:36.

13. What are the four related requests (with verses) Paul makes for the Ephesian church?

A.

B.

C.

D.

14. What is the result of God's answering Paul's prayer in the life of a believer? Give the verse.

15. What is Paul's confidence that his readers will experience the enablement for which he prays?

**Personal Reflection and Application**

16. How much of Paul's prayer has been your *experience* this week? What are you willing to do about what you have learned this week?