

# Ephesians for Everyman: *Identity Crisis*

Week Three: Ephesians 3

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Oftentimes, we wrongly see the sharing of our faith as a duty to perform. As a task to check off our list. We view evangelism as something we *have* to do, rather than something we *get* to enter into with God. Take a look at Paul's encouragements:

*"...you know that God gave me the **special responsibility** of extending His grace to you Gentiles...." - Ephesians 3:2*

*"By God's grace and mighty power, I have been given the **privilege** of serving Him by spreading the Good News...." - Ephesians 3:7*

*"He (God) graciously gave me the **privilege** of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ." - Ephesians 3:8*

For God's man, we must recognize the simple and profound beauty that sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_.

*"And so, my judgment is that we should **not make it difficult** for the Gentiles who are turning to God." - Acts 15:19*

When the Gospel is being shared, both parties should experience a yoke that is \_\_\_\_\_, and a burden that is \_\_\_\_\_.

To the man sharing the Gospel - the burden of proving scripture is not on you!  
To the one hearing the Gospel, the invitation is into a love relationship with Jesus.....an easy yoke and a light burden!

*"And this is God's plan: both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share **equally** in the riches inherited by God's children. **Both** are part of the*

**same body**, and **both** enjoy the **promise of blessings** because they belong to Jesus Christ." - Ephesians 3:6

"There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female. For all are one in Christ Jesus." - Galatians 3:28

But, where does this unity come from? How did it happen? How do we preserve it? Unity has already been \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ handled it!

Look at the unity that is described in this passage alone, through Jesus Christ and His death on the cross we are now:

- **One people**
- Unified by **one true belief**
- With **equal blessing** from God
- Forming **one body**, which is the global church
- Enjoying **one promise**
- And all belonging to Jesus Christ....**the one who saves!**

"God's purpose in all this was to use the **church.....**to display His wisdom in it's rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places." - Ephesians 3:10

God's plan to display his own wisdom, to make himself known in this world, and to battle against the unseen rulers and authorities in the Heavenly places is to work through \_\_\_\_\_.

"Your life for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." - John 13:35

The \_\_\_\_\_ we show, \_\_\_\_\_ the faith we have.

As God's people, we love people for who they were \_\_\_\_\_ to be, even in spite of who they \_\_\_\_\_ are.

*"Freely you have been given, so freely give..." - Matthew 10:8*

*"You are the salt of the earth." - Matthew 5:13*

We expect \_\_\_\_\_ of the world, and \_\_\_\_\_ of the church.

*"You are the light of the world, like a city on a hill that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket. Instead a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house." - Matthew 5:14-15*

For God's man, we must trust that I am \_\_\_\_\_.

The light we've been given, isn't just \_\_\_\_\_. Lamps aren't lit for "lamp's" sakes! We must also remember that, if we're called to be \_\_\_\_\_, we can expect to go to some \_\_\_\_\_.

*"So that everyone will **praise your Father in heaven**" - Matthew 5:16*

Love is not \_\_\_\_\_. Like Jesus, love is always full of \_\_\_\_\_.

*"I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit." - Ephesians 3:16*

*"Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grown down into God's love and keep you strong." - Ephesians 3:17*

*"And may you have power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God." - Ephesians 3:18-19*