

Ephesians chapter 3

What is the “divine secret” (or mystery) Paul describes in 3-9? Who was it revealed to [2,5]? Why does he encourage them “not to lose heart” in verse 13 [1,7]?

In what sense can it be said that every family is named after God [14-15]?  What does Paul ask God for on behalf of the Ephesians [16-19]?

What four-letter word is behind the mystery of Christ described in this chapter? 

Ephesians chapter 4

What is this calling to which we have been called [1-6]?  contrast, Paul discusses the variety of gifts within the body [7-11]; what is the purpose -- the goal -- of those gifts [12-16]?  *Recite the four-letter word in 2, 15, and 16.*

What is surprising or shocking about verse 17? In verses 17-23 is Paul suggesting a miraculous transformation into a new person (that automatically lives a holy life), **or** a “heart transplant”: a new set of priorities for which we continue to strive; or maybe something else entirely? 

In what way(s) is the theme of verses 25-32 connected with the central idea of verses 1-6?

Ephesians chapter 5

Verses 3-5 list some things which are inappropriate for the saints of God because they are inconsistent with the character we are called to; what is that character [1-2]? 

Paul follows his emphasis on unity through love from chapter 4 with a mixture of abstract ideas intermixed with concrete examples of holy living in chapters 5 and 6. Verses 1, 10, and 17 provide a central theme for this chapter -- what is it?

How does verse 21 (and its extension in 22-33) connect with verse 2 and with the theme of chapter 3? *Bonus: compare 5:4 with 5:19.*

Next week: Philippians chapters 2, 3, and 4.