



# Ephesians

FINDING OUR IDENTITY

Eph 3:1-7

*Ephesians 3:1 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, 2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; 6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: 7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.*

# Context

*Ephesians 3:1 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,*

**Why is Paul so confident despite his circumstances?**

# Context

*What is a calling?*

# Context

*What is a calling?*

## 1) God's will

- God's desires universally realized in the life of his church.

# Context

*What is a calling?*

## 1) God's will

- God's desires universally realized in the life of his church.

*Romans 12:1-2 ... that ye may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

# Context

*What is a calling?*

- 1) God's will
- 2) God's plan

- God's desires realized personally in the life of his church.

# Context

*What is a calling?*

- 1) God's will**
- 2) God's plan**

- God's desires realized personally in the life of his church.

*Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose.*



Confidence in our identity  
begins with confidence in a calling.

# Calling

*2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; 6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:*

# Calling

*Paul knew the will of God and he knew the plan.*

# Calling

*Act 22:21 And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.*

# Calling

*Act 22:21 And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.*

*Rom 11:13 For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:*

# Calling

*Act 22:21 And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.*

*Rom 11:13 For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:*

*Rom 15:16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.*

# Calling

*Act 22:21 And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.*

*Rom 11:13 For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:*

*Rom 15:16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.*

*Gal 1:16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:*

Confidence in our calling  
means fearlessly owning what  
he made you for.



# Capacity

*7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.*

# Capacity

*7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.*

- Paul required transformation

# Capacity

*7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.*

- Paul required transformation
- Paul required grace 2 Cor 12:9

# Capacity

*7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.*

- Paul required transformation
- Paul required grace 2 Cor 12:9
- Paul required power Eph 1:19

Confidence in Christ  
makes the calling possible.

# Confidence

8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; 9 And to make all [men] see what [is] the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: 10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly [places] might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, 11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: 12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him. 13 Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

Confidence in prayer  
makes our calling fruitful.



# Ephesians

FINDING OUR IDENTITY



