Sermon Name _____ November 07, 2021

God's Vision for His Church

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Psalm 149; Ephesians 3:1-6; Matthew 5:1-12

Visit LCM online, www.lcm.church/digital, to watch or listen to today's sermon

Notes

Unity is a BIG IDEA throughout all of Scripture.

The Psalmist writes: *Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony! It is like fine oil on the head, running down on the beard, running down Aaron's beard, over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon falling on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD has bestowed the blessing of life forevermore.* -Psalm 133

Memory Verse: "*This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.*" - Ephesians 3:6

Next Week's Verses: Psalm 16; Ephesians 3:7-13; Mark 13:1-13

Digging Deeper

Talk Topics

Paul talks about the open mystery (or secret) of the Gospel.

What are some of your own biases that you need to overcome to allow the Spirit to make us one new people? What challenged you most from this weekend's services?

Is there another person who has hurt you deeply? How does embracing what Jesus did on the cross empower you to forgive them? How could you seek to pursue reconciliation with them?

What is one thing that God is calling us to believe or do as a result of hearing today's message?

Joining Jesus on His Mission

For More Information

Discuss these with your family or missional community this week.

- How did you see God at work in your life this week?
- What has God been teaching you in His Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having with your pre-Christian friends?
- What good can you do around here?
- How can we help you in prayer?

Further Study and Discussion throughout the week

Use the following passages and questions to explore additional Biblical insights about your heart.

Monday—*Ephesians 3:1-8*
Paul describes that the administration of the grace that Jesus gave him was the revealing of this mystery. In your own words, what is Paul saying this mystery is?

Tuesday—*Ephesians 3:1-8*
Why does Paul insist that Jews and Gentiles are heirs together as people through the Messiah?

Wednesday—*Ephesians 3:1-8*
As you think about this passage, what would be some challenges that a Gentile might experience being a part of a new community? How might a faithful Jewish person respond to Paul's words?

Thursday—*Ephesians 3:1-8*
Why do you think Paul believes that a unified people, both Jew and Gentile, is a signpost of the new creation?

Friday—*Ephesians 3:1-8*
Paul calls himself a "servant of this Gospel." In what ways can we show that we are servants of this Gospel as well?

Saturday—Spend the day praying for a deeper understanding of how the church is called to be a community where unity is central to our mission.