# SERMON PREP GUIDE NOVEMBER 26, 2017

### READING GOD'S WORD

Ephesians 3: 1-13

#### **DISCUSSING GOD'S WORD**

- 1. What is Paul's "reason" in verse 1? [Hint: see previous section]
- 2. Paul has already briefly mentioned the mystery of God's will to unite all things in Christ [Eph. 1:910]. How does he further elaborate in verse 6?
- 3. The components that he lists in verse 6 are not new concepts. Where, in Ephesians, have you already seen these? What are other Scripture references that repeat this theme?
- 4. What are words that Paul uses to describe himself in this week's section?
- 5. Who is the agent through which the manifold wisdom of God is made known?

#### APPLYING GOD'S WORD

- 1. Paul finds it important to give his background in verse 2 in the case that those who read the epistle do not personally know him. Why is it important, as we herald the message of the gospel, to also share our testimony? What would you share in just a brief sentence or two about God's work in your life?
- 2. As you examine the benefits of those that are "in Christ Jesus through the gospel," how does that compel you to tell those who have never heard the good news?
- 3. As the church, we have been given a purpose in verse 10. How does what Paul lists in verse 12 give us confidence in our task?

## **PRAYING GOD'S WORD**

- » Thank God, for His Spirit who has revealed to us the mystery of Christ.
- » Praise Him that we, as Gentiles, are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel!
- » Ask that as ministers of the gospel, we would proclaim His Truth with boldness and confidence.
- » Pray that we would be obedient, as the church, to make known the manifold wisdom of God.