

WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET

GOING DEEP - BOOK OF EPHESIANS - PART #3

Pastor Kevin Cummings – July 26, 2020

Ephesians 3:1-21

I. The _____ of God is a life jacket for the believer. (v. 1-6)

A. God is _____ - in control. (II Peter 2:1; Jude 4)

1. Whatever it is, God causes it or allows it.
2. What may seem like a mistake is all part of His plan.
(Isaiah 55:8-9; Matthew 14:22-34; Romans 5:3-5)

B. Our circumstances do not determine, they _____ our character

C. Sometimes God calms the storm, sometimes He calms _____.

1. By giving us grace. (2:8-9)

- What is the mystery? All believers are _____

2. By giving us the gospel. (I Corinthians 15:1-4)

- What is the gospel? Christ died, was buried, and rose from the dead.
- The gospel is the _____ for racial reconciliation.

II. The _____ of God is a lifejacket for the believer. (v. 7-21)

A. The power of God comes through _____. (I Kings 3-4)

1. Wisdom is seen through the church.
2. Wisdom is seen through a relationship with Christ.
3. Wisdom is seen through suffering.
(Acts 26:20-23; James 1:2-5; I Peter 4:12-19)

B. The power of God comes through _____.

1. Note why Paul prays.
2. Note how Paul prays.
3. Note what Paul prays.

- That they may _____ God and be strong spiritually

- That they may _____ in God by focusing on the love of Christ.

a. Water the root not the fruit.
(John 15:1-5; Galatians 5:22-23)

b. God's love is enough.

1. It is wide enough to include everyone.
(Psalm 145:17; John 3:16)

2. It is long enough to last forever.
(Psalm 89:2; Jeremiah 31:3)

3. It is high enough to be everywhere.

"Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."
Romans 8:39

4. It is deep enough to meet my needs.

"My only hope is your love ... for my problems are too big for me to solve and are piled over my head." Psalm 40:11-12 (TLB)

- That they may _____ for God by remembering God is able. (Galatians 5:16; Colossians 1:27)

ACTION POINTS: 1.) Have you ever _____ the gospel?

2.) You will never go deep unless you actually _____ the life jacket of God's plan and power.

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Ephesians 3:1-21

I. The plan of God is a life jacket for the believer. (v. 1-6)

A. God is sovereign - in control. (II Peter 2:1; Jude 4)

1. Whatever it is, God causes it or allows it.
2. What may seem like a mistake is all part of His plan.
(Isaiah 55:8-9; Matthew 14:22-34; Romans 5:3-5)

B. Our circumstances do not determine, they reveal our character.

C. Sometimes God calms the storm, sometimes He calms us.

1. By giving us grace. (2:8-9)

- What is the mystery? All believers are together.

2. By giving us the gospel. (I Corinthians 15:1-4)

- What is the gospel? Christ died, was buried, and rose from the dead.
- The gospel is the only hope for racial reconciliation.

II. The power of God is a life jacket for the believer. (v. 7-21)

A. The power of God comes through wisdom. (I Kings 3-4)

1. Wisdom is seen through the church.
2. Wisdom is seen through a relationship with Christ.
3. Wisdom is seen through suffering.
(Acts 26:20-23; James 1:2-5; I Peter 4:12-19)

B. The power of God comes through prayer.

1. Note why Paul prays.
2. Note how Paul prays.
3. Note what Paul prays.

- That they may KNOW God and be strong spiritually

- That they may GROW in God by focusing on the love of Christ.

a. Water the root not the fruit.
(John 15:1-5; Galatians 5:22-23)

b. God's love is enough.

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4. It is deep enough to meet my needs.

"My only hope is your love ... for my problems are too big for me to solve and are piled over my head." Psalm 40:11-12 (TLB)

- That they may LIVE for God by remembering God is able. (Galatians 5:16; Colossians 1:27)

ACTION POINTS: 1.) Have you ever accepted the gospel?

2.) You will never go deep unless you actually wear the life jacket of God's plan and power.