

We Are God's Family
The New Family of God on Earth
Ephesians 3:7-12

The Church is God's Family on Earth

Eph. 2:1-10 God's work in me has changed who **I AM!**

Eph. 2:11-22 God's work in us has changed who **WE ARE!**

Eph. 3:1-7 Paul's Calling to **Make the Church Known!**

- The Church is a "New Creation" (2:15)
- It is a "United Body," a living organism, composed of everyone who believes in Jesus (2:15).
- Every believer shares the same access to God through the Spirit. (2:18)
- Every believer is connected and growing as a part of a living organism where God lives among them as family. (2:21-22)
- Jesus chose Paul to fight for the unity of His Family (3:1-7)

***Understanding God's intentions for His family
will change what we value as most important in life!***

Paul's Mandate to Make the New Creation Known (3:7-10)

- 1. Paul was established as a minister (servant) of the church. (3:7)**

It was a gift of grace and display of power in Paul's understanding (Acts 9)

- 2. Paul was the least important of Christians but entrusted with the privilege of defending the most marginalized of people as members of God's new family. (3:8)**

Gentiles were the marginalized people in the time of Christ.

Explaining all the privileges they enjoy because of what Jesus had done was a privilege for Paul.

- 3. Paul's more detailed message was how the "new creation" was and is intended to function and grow." (3:9)**

The church is "new creation" created Jesus.

Paul is entrusted with responsibility for explaining how it is nurtured.

- 4. The church is a display of God's wisdom among beings we do not see who are watching to see the success of what God has done. (3:10-13)**

There are rulers and authorities in the spiritual realm we do not see who are watching the effectiveness of God's work in the church.

The Church is the "new creation" created by Jesus Christ to restore the relationship of God with people.

Enjoying the Privilege of Serving the Church

- **We have the greatest privilege available in this life because we are able to serve the church of God as His "new creation."**
- **Knowing the value of the church to God is reason for commitment to serving sacrificially no matter the cost.**
- **Our most important priority in life is learning to use what God has entrusted to us to build what He created.**