

EPHESIANS

FINDING AND LIVING OUT OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST



Part 3: Look Up

September 27, 2015

Scripture: Ephesians 3

Key thought:

Most people's view of God is _____.

God _____ our _____.

3 Ways God exceeds our expectations:

1. God's _____ goes beyond our _____.
2. God's _____ goes beyond our _____.
3. God's _____ goes beyond our _____.

Bottom Line:

- In Christ, we have _____ to God.
- In Christ, God's grace, love and power is at work _____ us.

Talk It Over

1. What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
2. Like Chuck's anticipation when visiting the Sistine Chapel, and Clark Griswold's overblown expectations of a 'fun, old-fashioned family Christmas' in *Christmas Vacation*, sometimes our high hopes don't come to fruition. Talk about a time when your expectations of an event or activity weren't met.
3. Do you think most people's expectations for what God can do are too high or too low? Explain.
4. Chuck said that the real problem behind the failure of many Christians to live out their faith was theological—their view of God is too small. Do you agree? Why or why not?
5. Many people say they believe in an all-loving, all-powerful God, but the evidence of their life says otherwise. How should belief in God's immeasurable love and unimaginable power affect how we live on a daily basis? How should it affect our hopes, fears, dreams, and prayers?
6. In Ephesians 3:21, Paul implies that one of the primary purposes of the church is to bring glory to God. What does that mean and what would it look like for ECC?
7. In these verses, we see that Paul valued the gospel so much he was willing to go to jail for his faith; and in fact, Christians all over the world are facing that same choice today. In light of current cultural trends, can you envision a time when you or someone close to you might have to make that choice? If so, how do you think you would respond?