

# EPHESIANS

*PART OF SOMETHING BIG*



*November 19, 2023*



# WELCOME

At RCC, the Bible tells us that God wants us to find our greatest joy in Him and that He desires for us to share this experience with others.

So our mission is - To encourage people to **Enjoy God Together**.

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And our vision is - To **build joy-filled communities of faith** whose very existence inspires individuals to live an abundant Christian life, **made up of three key relationships - r1, r2, and r3**.

**r1** – A deepening relationship with God

**r2** – A life-changing relationship with other believers

**r3** – An engaging relationship with those yet to believe

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To get there, we have a few things that matter to us:



**WE FIND OUR GREATEST JOY IN JESUS**



**WHAT WE THINK ABOUT GOD MATTERS**



**WE HELP PEOPLE HELP PEOPLE**



**WE CELEBRATE QUESTIONS**



**WE EMBRACE INEVITABLE TENSIONS**



**THIS IS FOR LIFE**

# GIVING UPDATE

Thank you to all of you for investing in RCC's vision and community. As of 11/15/23 our giving vs. budget is:

General Fund Giving	Month to Date	Year to Date
2023 Actual	\$49,209	\$1,166,885
2023 Budget	\$71,917	\$1,356,776
Difference	-\$22,708	-\$189,891

At RCC, we believe that giving comes as a natural, joyous outpouring of worship for what God has done, is doing, and will do in our lives. So whatever is received, we are grateful and truly believe God is honored through our giving.

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR WINTER CAMP

JAN

19

### Route 56

**When:** January 19th - 21st

**Cost:** \$300

**Where:** Forest Home



FEB

16

### High School & Junior High

**When:** February 16th - 19th

**Cost:** \$450

**Where:** Thousand Pines



# CHRISTMAS WITH RCC

We are looking forward to jumping into the Christmas season with you and your families. Join us as we celebrate the gift of Jesus, fun Christmas music and more!

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30pm**

We are excited to share our 3rd annual Christmas Concert with you. If you joined us last year, you know how much fun it was to sing along to Christmas classics with amazing performers!

## More Than... *A Christmas Series with rcc*

Starting Sunday, 12/3, we're spending the four Sundays leading up to Christmas unpacking the birth of Jesus. We're excited to continue to think deeply about how our Savior is more than anything we could have imagined.

## CHRISTMAS EVE

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 9am & 5pm**

At 9am we will finish up our Christmas Series "More Than..." during a more "traditional" Sunday service.

At 5pm we will celebrate with the entire family Jesus' birth. There will be music, laughter, treats and time to reflect on God's big heart and amazing plan for us!



# SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK:

## Ephesians 3:1-6

<sup>1</sup> For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup> assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

## NOTES:

# **So Happy Together**

Ephesians 3:1-6

Brian Betts - November 19, 2023

Paul wants us to be collectively moved by God's plan for the blending of the church and the radical unity the gospel produces.

**Paul got the mystery, and it radically changed his life and the Church.**

**We get the mystery, and it produces radical unity.**

# ***Life Group Discussion Questions***

Ephesians 3:1-6

For the week of November 19, 2023

## ***Reading the Text:***

1. What was the big idea of Ephesians 2:19-22 from last week?
2. What is the mystery Paul is referring to? In what way is he using the term "*mystery*"? How is it a mystery in the way your group previously defined?
3. Verses 3-4 contain two of Paul's uses of the word "*mystery*". How did Paul share his insights of the mystery with the Ephesians? What did they "*do*" to understand the mystery? (Consider vv. 3b & 4a)
4. What does it mean that the Gentiles are now "*fellow heirs*", "*members of the same body*", and "*partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus...*"? What is Paul communicating by his use of each of these phrases?
5. How would you restate the big idea of the Ephesians 3:1-6 in your own words?

## ***Living It Out:***

1. At RCC, we use the term "First Hander" to describe someone who seeks to hear from God directly through His Word. Do you think Paul supports this idea? Why or why not? In what ways could it more productive to be a "First Hander" than to rely on hearing from God "Second Hand", "Third Hand", or even further?
2. Has there been a time in your life when reading Scripture changed the way you think about a specific attribute of the character of God? What was the truth, and what was that experience like?
3. When you think of the term "radical unity", what ideas come to mind? What does this kind of unity look like? How can we as a Life Group encourage each other to pursue this kind of unity in the faith?

# RICHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

## OUR STAFF



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