

## Ephesians 3: 1-2

**Topic:** a) God uses people

a) Once there was a crayon who lived in a crayon box with all the other crayons. The color of this crayon was “sky blue.” The problem was that this crayon was never used. It was so far down in the corner of the box that the little girl who owned the crayons never saw it. The crayon was sad. He could hear all the other crayons laughing as the little girl colored with them. He was a crayon and he wanted to be used to color things. One day the little girl was coloring. She dumped out the whole box of crayons. She saw the sky blue crayon. “Oh!” she said, “Here’s a pretty crayon!” She began coloring with the crayon. The crayon was very happy. Soon the crayon was all used up and he went to crayon heaven and became the blue in the sky.

- If God wants to make someone smile. If He wants someone to know the truth...He will use us.
- There is nothing better than to be used by God to color this world with His love.

## Ephesians 3: 3-6

**Topic:** a) No one is left out.

a) Randy went to the playground. There were some kids running a race. Randy wanted to run too. “Go away Randy you’re too short!” they yelled. There were some kids playing basketball. Randy went up to play. “Go away Randy, you’re too short!” they yelled. There were kids playing baseball. Randy wanted to play. “Go away Randy! You can’t be on our team. You cant even hit the ball!” Randy went home sad and alone.

- Is God like that?
- There are two words that God will never say to you. (Go away!)
- There are two words that God will always say to you. (Come closer!)

## Ephesians 3: 7

**Topic:** a) All things come by grace.

a) Randy liked to put models together. One day they went to the store and Randy’s dad bought him a really cool car model. His dad put the model in the trunk. “This is for you” he said. “You can have it later.” When they got home Randy jumped out of the car, ran into the garage, grabbed the lawn mower and mowed the whole lawn. “I mowed the lawn for you. Can I have it now?” “No” said dad. Randy went in and washed the dishes. “I washed the dishes can I have it now?” “No” said dad. Randy cleaned the whole house.

“I cleaned the whole house. Can I have it now?” “No” said dad. Randy washed the car. “I washed the car. Can I have it now?” “No” said dad. “Then tell me, what do I have to do to get the model?!” “Nothing” said dad, “It’s a gift. Just take it!” Randy was very thankful.

- Everything is a gift from God.

## Ephesians 3: 8

**Topic:** a) How do we get the biggest prize?

a) Andrew was on a baseball team. He hit twenty home runs. He got the prize for hitting the most home runs.

- Why did he get the prize?

a) Teresa entered a talent contest. She sang and danced. Everyone thought her singing and dancing was the best. She got the prize for the best performance.

- Why did she get the prize?

a) Dee loves to skateboard. She entered a skateboarding contest. She did a double flip off her board and landed perfectly. Everyone cheered. She got the prize for best skateboarder.

- Why did she get the prize?

a) The biggest prize in the universe is heaven.

- You are going to get it.
- Why?

## Ephesians 3: 9

**Topic:** a)

a) God had a solution.

a) Billy had a problem. His ears kept falling off. Then he couldn’t hear anybody. So Billy went out, bought ear muffs and glued his ears into them. Now he could hear everything. He fixed the problem.

a) Rachel had a problem. Every time she put her hand into her pet alligators mouth he would bite her. She thought and thought...How can I fix this problem? Maybe if I don’t put my hand into the alligators mouth he won’t bite me. So she did and the problem was fixed.

a) This world has a problem. People have gotten farther and farther away from God and without God there is no life. God fixed this problem.

- How? (By sending Jesus)

## **Ephesians 3: 10-11**

**Topic:** a) How do the angels know what God is like?

a) They see Him but there's another way.

a) Sandy looked out of bedroom window. Every day she saw an old man walking down the sidewalk. She wondered what the man was like. Every day a little puppy would run out to meet him. She saw the man pet the puppy and give him a treat. When the birds saw him they would flock around him. He would take a bag of seed out of his pocket and feed the birds. One time she saw a little kid fall on the sidewalk. The boy was crying. The old man walked up and helped him. One day her mom saw the man. "I wonder what that man is like" she wondered. "I know what he's like" said Sandy.

- How does she know?
- The angels saw God come down from heaven, become a person and take the punishment for our sins on the cross.
- They know the love of God by watching God love us.

**Topic:** b) What does God want us to do?

b) Mark's room was a mess. There were so many clothes on the floor that you couldn't open the door. The only way to get into Mark's room was to go through the window. Mark's dad left a note. It said, "There is one thing you have to do today and you know what it is."

- What is it?

b) There is really only one thing that God wants you to do.

- What is it? (Live)

**Topic:** c) How do we do this?

c) There was a mouse who couldn't find any food. She was so hungry that she thought she was going to die. Suddenly a huge gorilla came by. The mouse followed the gorilla. The gorilla grabbed one of the trees and shook it. Fruit from the tree came falling down to the ground. The mouse ate and ate.

- How will the mouse live? (By following the gorilla)
- How do we live? (By following Jesus the only one who can give life)

## Ephesians 3: 12

**Topic:** a) access

a) Once there was a king who sat on his throne. No one could come near the king because the king was too great, powerful and mighty. One day the king's son came into the throne room. He ran up to the throne and started jumping up and down on the king's lap. The people outside were shocked. They asked, "How come he gets to come in and get so close to the king?" (How come he gets to?) One day the king's son brought in a bunch of his friends. They all ran up to the throne and started jumping all around it. The people outside were shocked. They said, "I know the king's son can come in whenever he wants to but how come these other kids get to be so close to the king?"

- Why do the other kids get to be so close to the king? (Because the son brought them in)
- Jesus is the Son of God. He came to save us and bring us to God.
- We can come before God's throne in prayer any time, any place.
- Don't stay outside.

## Ephesians 3: 13-15

**Topic:** a) How many brothers and sisters do you have?

a) One day the teacher asked the kids in her class about their families. One boy got up and said that he had an older brother. A girl got up and said that she had a brother and sister who lived in California. Another boy got up and said he had two brothers, one lived in Florida and the other in Arizona. He also had a sister who lived in Alaska. Then a girl named Alice stood up. She said that she had thousands of brothers and sisters who lived in every country on earth and thousands of brothers and sisters who lived in heaven.

- What is she talking about? (God's family)
- Are you in God's family?
- How do you join?

## Ephesians 3: 16

**Topic:** a) strengthened with might.

a) David and Goliath

- Who looked the strongest?

- Who was faster?
- Who had better weapons?
- Who was bigger?
- Who had more muscles?
- Who was stronger? (David...he won the battle)
- Why?

a) Once there were two trees. One was huge. It stood forty feet high. It was so big that if you got close and looked up you couldn't even see the sky. The other tree was little. It was short, thin and hardly had any leaves on it. The big tree was big on the outside but hardly had any roots in the ground. The little tree was little above ground but had long strong roots deep in the ground. One day there was a wind storm. The wind blew so hard that it knocked the big tree over. When the storm was over the little tree was still standing.

- What did the little tree have that the big tree didn't? (Roots)
- We are rooted in Jesus' love.
- Nothing can destroy us if we are living in His love.

## **Ephesians 3: 17-19**

**Topic:** a) What is the most important thing?

a) There is a man who is going to enter a car race. They will race around a track going very, very fast.

- What is the most important thing he needs to know? (How to drive)

a) There is a woman who is going to swim across the ocean. It is going to take a long time and the swim is very dangerous.

- What is the most important thing she needs to know? (How to swim)

a) Us living our lives which are sometimes happy, sometimes sad.

- What is the most important thing we need to know? (The love that God is and has for you)

a) There was a boy who wanted to fly. He made a gigantic kite. This kite was so big that he put a seat on it. He sat in his kite and took off. The wind took the kite higher and higher. Suddenly the kite started to go down fast. The wind came and took it back up into the sky. He was nearing some mountain tops. It looked like he was going to run right into them and crash but the wind took him up higher and he sailed on safely. He sailed through the sky having the best ride ever. He knew that as long as the wind was there he was safe.

- The love of God is like that wind. It holds us up. We need to know it.

a) There was once a balloon. The boy holding it let go and the balloon flew high into the sky. The balloon was so happy. It could see for miles and miles. The view was beautiful. Higher and higher it went. Soon it was in outer space. It could see the earth far below with stars all around it. The balloon went higher. Finally it went so high that it just couldn't hold it all in and it exploded.

- If you really, really, really knew how good God is. If you really, really, really knew how Jesus has loved you... You would have so much joy that you would explode.
- That's why we'll have new and better bodies in heaven.

a) There was a monkey in the jungle. One day the monkey saw a lion. The monkey was amazed at how big and powerful the lion is. The monkey wanted to know just how great that lion is. The monkey asked the lion if he could follow him around. The lion said yes. The monkey listened to the lion talk. The monkey talked to the lion. The monkey asked the lion a lot of questions. Whenever the monkey was scared or in trouble he would ask the lion for help. That monkey was with the lion all the time. Every day he got to know more and more just how great the lion is.

- Want to know the love of God? Tell Him. Spend time with Him.

## **Ephesians 3: 20-21**

**Topic:** a) I'll never do it. Jesus can!

a) There was a boy who liked to play in the woods. There was a wide creek flowing through the woods. The boy wanted to get to the other side of the creek. He kept trying to jump over it but it was too far and he always fell in. One day he was walking through the woods with his father. They came to the creek and the boy said, "I'll never be able to jump over that creek." "I can" said his dad. With that his dad picked the boy up and threw him over the creek. The boy landed safely on the other side. He stood up and yelled, "I made it!"

- However close you want to be to God...Jesus will bring you there.
- Jesus can do more than we can even imagine.
- You cannot save yourself... You can't make yourself good....But Jesus can...Do you want Him to?