



**THE GOD I WISH YOU KNEW:  
“can solve your mysteries”**

**Getting Started**

What’s your favorite movie of all time?

What’s your favorite mystery movie or television show of all time?

Which of the following mysteries would you most like to solve and why?

- Loch Ness Monster
- Big Foot
- Bermuda Triangle
- Lost City of Atlantis

**Going Deeper**

In [\*Ephesians 3\*](#), Paul talks about one the biggest mysteries that faced the first century church. In the old testament God’s chosen people referred specifically to the nation of Israel, but when Jesus came to earth he opened up the role of chosen to everyone, including the gentiles. Take a moment to read [\*Ephesians 3:1-9\*](#) and answer the following questions

What kind of racial tension do you think this change brought about in the early church?  
How does God want us to deal with the differences between races, genders, and beliefs  
(See [\*Galatians 3:26-28\*](#))

Racism continues to be a hot topic in our country. Take a moment to talk through the following quotes and discuss what we can do, so that the words from Galatians 3 can be true of us.

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. -Martin Luther King, Jr.*

*Racism isn't born, folks, it's taught. I have a two-year-old son. You know what he hates? Naps!  
End of list. -Denis Leary*

*If you're not careful, the newspapers will have you hating the people who are being oppressed, and loving the people who are doing the oppressing. -Malcolm X*

The second half of [\*\*Ephesians 3\*\*](#) deals with 3 other mysteries we deal with as people. Take a moment to read the verses and discuss each mystery.

### **1) The mystery of the vastness of God's love**

**What is a moment in time when you felt the most overwhelmed by love?**

If we are capable of such deep love, how much more capable is God of loving us. Read over the following verses and talk about the vastness of God's love

[\*\*Ephesians 3:17-19\*\*](#)

[\*\*Psalms 103:11-12\*\*](#)

### **2) The mystery of God's ability to heal our inner being**

Read [\*\*Ephesians 3:16-17\*\*](#). What wisdom can you learn from these verses about God's ability to heal you from the inside.

On Sunday we talked about two steps toward inner healing

**A. Identify your wound**

**B. Forgive the one who wounded you**

Take a moment to talk about why you think each of those steps is important  
Which one of those steps is hardest for you?

### 3) The mystery of God's passion for the church

Read [Ephesians 3:6, 17, 18](#). Over and over God uses the word together to talk about how we are to do the Christian life. Why do you think it's important to do life together as a Christian?

How would you answer someone who made the following statements to you.

- I connect with God in nature
- I can grow close to God on my own
- I feel closest to God when I'm sitting alone at Starbucks with my bible and my journal.

[Matthew 18:19,20](#) show us some power that we can only get when we are together. How can we as people maximize this power in our lives?

