
Date: August 27, 2023 **Message:** Confidence During Difficulty

Series: Inclusion then Action **Scripture:** Ephesians 3

The cause of their distress:

Why Paul has peace:

1.

2.

3.

How the Ephesians can find peace as well:

1. When has someone close to you remained confident and poised under immense pressure or difficult circumstances? What was their explanation for why they had peace?
2. In what ways can you relate to Paul's mindset during hardship (part of God's purpose, recipient of God's grace, for God's glory)? In what ways is it difficult for you to relate to him?
3. What do you think helped Paul be so convinced that his circumstances were part of God's plan, given to him as a gift, and could be used for God's glory? What role could the crucifixion and resurrection have played?
4. When have you had a profound experience of God's presence—either during a difficult season or otherwise? What difference did that experience make the next time you went through difficulty?
5. When you see someone close to you struggling through various challenges in life, how do you try to comfort them? Would you ever try Paul's approach? Why or why not?
6. How would you respond to Paul's counsel if you were in the Ephesian church? Why?