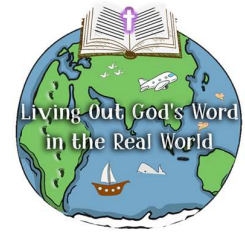


**PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH**  
*LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE*



**Sermon Date: 20/1/19**

**Text/s:** Eph 3:7-11

**Title: Empower Me**

**Preacher: Rev Dr Philip Huan**

(The sermon recording and slides are available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

**READ (5 mins)**

(Read the Bible text/s, quietly or aloud)

**REFLECT (20 mins)**

(Reflect on key themes and questions in the text/s)

**1. Verses 7-9**

How did Paul come to understand that it is by *God's grace* that he had been called to proclaim Christ to the Gentiles and the mystery that was once hidden but now revealed? (cf Acts 26:9-11 (his background), Acts 9:3-19 (his encounter); 1 Tim 1:15-16; Gal 1:11-16)

**Additional notes:**

The 'mystery' is that the Gentiles are fellow-heirs, fellow-members and fellow-partakers in Christ through the gospel (v6). In Him, Jews and Gentiles are joined together in one entity called the Church. This is unheard of in Paul's time. Nobody would have thought that the Gentiles are to be included in God's program or covenant.

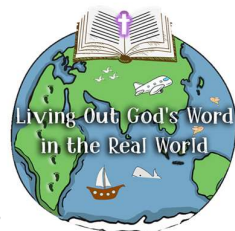
2. How would the knowledge of God's grace and power impact Paul's attitude toward his life and ministry e.g. in dealing with acceptance or rejection by the Jews and Gentiles?

**3. Verses 10-11**

What is the wisdom of God? (cf 1 Cor 1:22-24) Paul describes God's wisdom as manifold or multi-faceted. What does this tell us about the gospel of Christ and how we can proclaim it?

**Additional question**

Who/what can act as potential barriers to the proclamation of God's manifold wisdom?



### **RELATE (20 mins)**

(Relate and apply God's word to our daily lives)

1. "I have made a decision in my life to serve God's purposes in all that I do"
  - a) When did you/ have you ever made such a decision in your life?
  - b) What challenges do you face in living true to that?
  - c) What joys have you experienced in living true to that?
  
2. Share with your group the name of one person you have been trying to reach for Christ. Describe briefly the person's background, personality, and interests. Pray together for God's wisdom as you seek to share the Gospel with him/her.

### **REST (15 mins)**

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for weekly guide)

### **Suggested song:**

#### **Empower Me**

*(by Claire Cloninger & David T. Clydesdale)*

Nobody knows how weak I am, better than you  
Nobody sees all of my needs, better than you  
And nobody has the power to change me, from what I was born to be  
Jesus be strong in my weakness, empower me

Chorus:

Empower me, like a rushing river flowing to the sea  
Lord, send your Holy Spirit flowing now through me  
Till I'm living as your child, victorious and free  
Send the power of your love, empower me

Nobody's eyes see through my soul, better than yours  
Nobody's love can make me whole, no one but yours  
And nobody has the power to lift me, to reach for eternity  
Jesus break through all my defences, empower me  
(repeat Chorus)