#### Sermon Overview CEFC February 5, 2023

**Title:** God's Purpose for our Powerlessness **Passage** Ephesians 3:1-13

# **Introduction**

#### Question: How can we avoid <u>DISCOURAGEMENT</u> when we are <u>POWERLESS</u> in the face of <u>IMPOSSIBLE</u> <u>CIRCUMSTANCES</u>

Main Point: God wants us to **EMBRACE** His **PURPOSE** for our **POWERLESSNESS** 

### **Discovering God's Purpose for our Powerlessness**

We should see <u>OUR</u> <u>LIVES</u> through God's <u>CALLING</u> and <u>NOT</u> through our <u>CIRCUMSTANCES</u>

Principle: We should <u>NEVER</u> <u>ALLOW</u> our <u>CIRCUMSTANCES</u> to <u>DEFINE</u> us

Principle: God's <u>POWER</u> is most <u>POWERFUL</u> in our <u>POWERLESSNESS</u>

#### We should <u>PERSIST</u> in <u>PURSUING</u> God's <u>PURPOSES</u> <u>REGARDLESS</u> of our <u>CIRCUMSTANCES</u>

**Principle:** God will use our <u>PERSISTANCE</u> in <u>IMPOSSIBLE</u> <u>SITUATIONS</u> to <u>CONFOUND</u> the <u>PRINCIPALITIES</u> and <u>POWERS</u>

# Principle: Our **PERSISTANCE** is our **PROCLAMATION**

# **CONCLUSION**

Communion

# **Sermon Based Small Group Questions**

Message Title:	God's Purpose For Our Powerlessness
Passage:	Ephesians 3:1-13
Main Point:	God wants us to embrace His purpose for our powerlessness

- Think of a time when you faced a set of impossible circumstances. What were some of the feelings you experienced? What did your walk with God look like over your journey through those circumstances? How could it have been better?
- 2. Paul had the decision to see himself either as a prisoner of Rome or a prisoner of Christ. He chose Christ. Why do you think He was able to see past his immediate circumstances to God's call on His life? What can you learn from Paul and apply?
- Read 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. What is a circumstance in your life where God might be saying to you, "My grace is sufficient"? What can you do this week to lean into His grace and receive His power?
- 4. How does knowing that there is a spiritual battle going on behind your impossible circumstances change the way you see them?
- 5. What are some ways we punt rather than persist when faced with impossible circumstances?
- 6. What do you think God wants to proclaim through your impossible circumstances to the principalities and powers that are behind them. How can you cooperate with Him.