**FOCUS Bible Study - July 27**

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[@0:00](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=0.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Good morning Luke. This meeting is being recorded. Good morning. morning. Good morning.

[@0:07](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=7.52) - **Luke Huffman**

How are you? I'm doing well. Can't complain.

[@0:11](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=11.06) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Good to see you. Yeah.

[@0:14](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=14.42) - **Luke Huffman**

Thanks again for the gift of books and I'm still making them right through them.

[@0:19](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=19.1) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

All right.

[@0:19](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=19.6) - **Luke Huffman**

Good. I'm glad to hear it. Yeah.

[@0:21](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=21.74) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you. Enjoying them. Are you doing this morning, Alicia?

[@0:26](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=26.92) - **Alicia**

I'm great.

[@0:27](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=27.72) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

How are you? I'm good. Thank you. I got some nice sunshine going on behind you there.

[@0:32](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=32.28) - **Alicia**

like that. Oh, yes.

[@0:34](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=34.24) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah. wife has been like badgering me to be doing Bible study outside this morning on the patio. Oh, yes.

Which would be fine, but then I'm concerned if neighbors come out and make noise or the birds fly around, you know.

That's when somebody most along though.

[@0:50](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=50.68) - **Alicia**

Exactly.

[@0:57](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=57.54) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Here comes Brittany. Good morning Brittany, we're glad you're here this morning.

[@1:13](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=73.0) - **Brittany**

Tell where you're calling in from. From North Carolina. Whereabouts in North Carolina.

[@1:31](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=91.08) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay.

[@1:32](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=92.28) - **Brittany**

Um, originally from Greensboro. Isn't too far off from Raleigh.

[@1:36](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=96.1) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So I don't just say. Great. Well, we are super excited that you were here this morning.

[@1:41](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=101.44) - **Brittany**

Thank you for joining us. Okay. I appreciate it. We're just going to give it a couple minutes as people started to jump on.

[@1:57](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=117.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

What's the weather like in Raleigh this morning? joining us Pardon me Charlotte. I said so the wrong base. What's brother like in Charlotte?

[@2:04](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=124.2) - **Brittany**

They're really Very cloudy looks like it's gonna rain, but I I'm not sure Gotcha, we've had a lot of rain this spring and summer Usually by this time of year our lawn is completely burned out, but this year it's actually growing like bandits Look I was down in your neck of the woods you're over by Lake Geneva.

[@2:40](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=160.26) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I was there last week at a restaurant near Williams Bay I think it was I forget the name of the restaurant But it was just beautiful in the lake a big restaurant where you can sit on a patio and look out on the lake Does peer 290 sound familiar?

[@2:57](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=177.78) - **Luke Huffman**

That's it. That's it. Yeah, it's beautiful They're a little expensive.

[@3:01](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=181.62) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, luckily it was a work dinner, so I didn't have to pay for it.

[@3:05](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=185.02) - **Luke Huffman**

It was nice.

[@3:06](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=186.82) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, yeah, had a client that took us there. It was it was very nice. I didn't realize how big that lake it really is.

It's, you know, you can see quite a bit of it. as you're sitting there, it's all sprung out before you.

[@3:22](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=202.28) - **Luke Huffman**

And that's just a section of the of the lake that says that in inlet that bay or Williams Bay, but that's just a little section of the of the lake.

[@3:39](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=219.46) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So I can only imagine how big it is. mean, they had a map of it on the wall because it was at the restaurant and it had like a marina field, so they had all kinds of boats and different things and they had a lot of of cool stuff on the walls.

they had these big maps of the lake on the wall. So yeah, it looked very big. Well, maybe this is all we're going to have this morning, which is fine.

We will go ahead and get started I don't want to keep everybody waiting too long I'm gonna try something new this morning I created a little poll and I know there's only couple of us here on this But let's see if this works if I launch this poll.

Can you guys answer the question or maybe it didn't?

[@4:19](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=259.66) - **Luke Huffman**

Maybe something I'm curious if you guys can answer those two questions I put out there Does it give you a chance to answer them?

[@4:31](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=271.6) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Uh-huh Stewart I thought this might be kind of fun a little little pop quiz or a little like questions Get more interaction here.

That's what I'm always striving for interaction with the Bible study And obviously You're to see that these questions relate to the study we're going to have today.

So not just not just random questions as sometimes that's fun to ask random questions, but Okay, so we got the results.

I'm not going to end the poll in case other people join in. And but right now the first question was who likes mysteries and Julie.

know you didn't get to vote because you're not by the way, Julie is my wife. She's also here with us behind the camera.

She doesn't usually like being on the camera. It make sense. I can't say hi to everyone. So there's Julie.

But Julie, do you like mysteries? You can either answer, I do their intriguing or not meet their snoozers. There's somewhere in between.

Yeah, I'll say more in yes than no. Okay, so we got a three for I do their intriguing and one for not for me their snoozers.

And then the second question, what does it mean to be a steward? And we have one person answer, someone who is responsible of money and two people answer someone who is a manager.

Which would you answer? Manager or a steward somebody responsible with money or who is a manager? Both really any more I would say responsible with money Okay, so we we have three people and and probably a split answer there Was it mean to be a steward two people answering responsible with money and one who's and two people answered a manager?

And we have owners iPhone who just joined us and i'm assuming that's cat is that cat this morning? Yes, good morning.

[@6:34](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=394.72) - **Owner’s iPhone**

I don't know if you're trying something new this morning cat.

[@6:37](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=397.92) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I have a poll out there Can you see the couple questions for the poll? I just I think I just completed it.

Awesome. Okay So, yeah, the questions who likes a mystery we are leaning towards most people do they they think they're intriguing And what does it mean to be a steward?

are almost but we are leaning towards more of someone who is a manager. Okay Well, I'm going to talk this morning about a topic called stewards of mysteries.

So I'm going to actually combine the two questions, stewards of mysteries. Did you know that you can be a steward of a mystery?

Yeah, kind of interesting thought. So with that, let's open up with prayer. And if other people join us as we get going, that's great.

And we'll just continue on. Lord Jesus, I thank you this morning for the opportunity to get together with my friends and just study a word.

I pray God that you would anoint us to receive whatever it is you have to share with us. That God, you'd impact our lives and impact our hearts with your word.

That God, whatever we learn here today would change us and we'd be able to carry it out into the world to help change it for your glory, for your honor in Jesus name.

Amen. Okay, so let's jump into my main scripture text found in 1 Corinthians, chapter 4, verses 1 and 2.

while we do that, I'm also going to then post the scripture list. out on the chat. So let's see if this works.

If you can see the scripture list out on the chat, can you give me a thumbs up or yeah, I can see it.

Good. Okay, so it's out there. All right, so we're going to first Corinthians chapter four and we're going to read verses one and two.

And what we do around here for those who are new is we do take turns reading scripture so we can get some involvement.

If you're not comfortable reading just say pass if I call on you and then I won't call on you going forward.

But if I call you feel free to read. Okay, and I usually just start around the top of my screen and go around.

And so when I look up the first person I actually see is Julie. So I'm going to ask Julie to kick us off with verses one and two of chapter four first Corinthians.

So then men ought to regard us as servants of Christ as those entrusted with the secret things of God.

Now it is required that those who have been given of trust must prove faithful. Okay. And does anybody have a different version than what Julie read, maybe like a King James or something like that?

[@9:07](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=547.58) - **Luke Huffman**

I don't know, King James, but I have a new living translation.

[@9:10](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=550.88) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Do you mind reading that for us?

[@9:13](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=553.42) - **Luke Huffman**

So look at a palace and me as mere servants of Christ who have been put in charge of explaining God's mysteries.

Now, a person who is put in charge as a manager must be faithful.

[@9:28](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=568.54) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So what we're starting to see with different translations is a different interpretation of some words. We see that we found the word servant, we found the word manager, and in the King James, it says, a man so account of us as the ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

Moreover, it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful. So, hence, we have the word steward being translated as servant and manager.

And we also see, I forgot the word that mysteries was translated in your version. Julie, do you remember in verse, towards the end of verse one?

It's a secret thing. Secret things, secret things and mysteries. So this is where we're getting two ideas of the idea of mysteries and stewards.

When we read these two scriptures, we have two responsibilities set before us and one requirement. So the two responsibilities are one to be a minister of Christ.

And the second responsibility is to be a steward of the mysteries of God. And then there's a responsibility associated with that second one.

It says, it's required of stewards be faithful in their stewardship. Have you ever heard that, especially verse two before, know, it's moreover, it's required of stewards of them that a man be found faithful?

You're probably familiar with that scripture, right? Because many times that scripture is used to talk about finances, right? And, but in relation, in reality here, the relationship of that.

Scripture is about the mysteries of God. have to be a steward or the mysteries of God. Okay, so if we have two responsibilities and one requirement based on those scriptures, then to understand really what this is telling us, we need to first understand what it means to be a minister.

Because if that's the first responsibility, we're a minister of Christ, what does it mean to be a minister? Well, if you look up the Greek word for minister in this verse, it's, and I'm going to pronounce it funky here, but I'll try my best from the Annunciation here.

Hoop our retace. Hoop our retace. And it's also translated as officer or servant. Hence why I think Julie's version that she read from, instead of saying minister, had the word servant.

But the idea is better understood as being a king's assistant or an minister can mean to be an attendant of a king.

this makes sense because the first time you the word ministry, minister, especially in the King James Version, because that's the version I tend to study from.

The first time you find it is in 1 Kings chapter 10 verse 5. And the first use of that word minister references the servants of King Solomon.

So to be a minister has this implication that you are an attendant of a king, kind of makes sense.

now let's read some further scriptures to help allow scripture to define what it means. Let's go to Psalm 103.

Psalm 103, we're going to find verse 21. And Luke, when you find that for us, would you mind reading that please?

Psalm 103 verse 21.

[@12:50](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=770.76) - **Luke Huffman**

Yes, praise the Lord, you armies of angels who serve him and do his will.

[@12:58](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=778.46) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

And angels was also translated as the word ministers. Okay, so ministers and what was the phrase there? Do his will or do his pleasure, it's also translated.

While we're in Psalms, let's wrap down to Psalm 104 there. And Alicia, would you read verse four please?

[@13:19](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=799.0) - **Alicia**

Sure, he makes winds, his messengers, flames of fire, his servants.

[@13:25](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=805.47) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

And in that translation, word winds is also translated as angels in other verses. So again, angels as ministers are flaming fire.

Let's turn to Ezekiel. That is going to be to the right Ezekiel chapter 44 in the Old Testament, Ezekiel 44.

I'm going to read verse 11. And Brittany, when you have that, do you mind reading that for us please?

Ezekiel 44 verse

[@14:07](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=847.32) - **Brittany**

They may serve in my sanctuary having charge of the gates of the temple and serving in it. They may slaughter the burnt offerings and sacrifices for the people and stand before the people are serving.

[@14:21](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=861.88) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

In your translation, word serve or serving is also translated as Minister in other versions so Minister or ministering. So serving ministering and they were in the house in the sanctuary and they were dealing with the sacrifice.

We're going come back and define what does all this mean. Well also while we're in Ezekiel, let's go to chapter 46 and let's read verse 24.

Kat, do you mind reading that please? Chapter 46 verse 24 of Ezekiel.

[@15:04](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=904.5) - **Owner’s iPhone**

It just takes me a while to go between them. I'm using the Bible on the phone. So hang on, okay, which verse 46?

Ezekiel chapter 46 verse 24, okay, then said he unto me, these are the places of them that boil. For the ministers to the house shall boil the sacrifice of the people.

[@15:34](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=934.2) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay, so again we have ministers and dealing with sacrifice. Let's go to Joel, again a little bit more to the right, Joel chapter 2, next book here, Joel 2, and Julia would you read verse 17, Joel 2 verse 17, please.

It's almost towards the end of the New Old Testament. It's just a couple of books after Ezekiel. What's your plan?

No problem. Oh, what? Excuse me, Joel, chapter 2, verse 17. 17. Okay. Let the priest who ministered before the board wait between the temple porch and the altar.

Let them say, spare your people, O Lord. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the people, where is their guide? Okay. Let's go in the New Testament to 2 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians chapter 3, just a couple more verses and I'll put all this together here.

So, 2 Corinthians chapter 3, 6. Luke, do you mind reading that when you have 2 Corinthians 3, 6?

[@17:07](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=1027.04) - **Luke Huffman**

He has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant. This is the covenant not of written laws but of the Spirit.

The old written covenant ends in death, but under the new covenant the Spirit gives life.

[@17:22](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=1042.84) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you and one more. Let's go to Hebrews chapter 1 Hebrews chapter 1 and let's read verse 7. Alicia, would you mind reading that in Hebrews 1, 7?

Alicia, you might be unmute.

[@17:49](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=1069.74) - **Alicia**

Yes, sorry. Aaron almost read the whole thing. In speaking of the angels, he says he makes his angels' spirits and his servants' flames of fire.

[@17:59](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=1079.6) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I think it's kind of Pressing that you read that scripture in the Old Testament here.

[@18:02](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=1082.4) - **Alicia**

You are reading it again in the New Testament. Did you realize that?

[@18:06](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=1086.46) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, I did it. It's almost the exact same scripture, right? It's almost the exact same Yeah, so I think that's pretty cool that you ended up reading both.

So let's look at these scriptures, okay I'm going to summarize them. I'll remind you first of all first what the scripture said.

So Psalm 103 Said that the minister does of God's good pleasure, right? So the first aspect of a minister is he he or she serves God and follows God's will with the desire to please him Okay, then we read Psalm 104 Which was the angel our maid the angels are made ministry spirits a flaming fire and then we also saw that scripture that Alicia just read in Hebrews one and seven again, repeated that right so the idea there is an Administer he or she has passion for God and it's emphasized

because it's a repeated scripture. In other words, if we don't, if we're lacking a passion for God, are we really ministers?

See, I believe everyone's been called to be a minister. If you believe in God, if you're going to live for God, he's called you into relationship.

And so you are to minister what you know about God, your relationship to others. That relationship affects you. And as you through, right?

The ministry is a flow through. You stay close to God. God flows through you. You then flow through others to others who don't know God and hopes that you draw them to God.

So a minister where all ministers one follows God and wants to please him because he has a passion for God.

Here she has a passion for God. But then we also read in Ezekiel 44 verse 11 where it talked about the minister being in the sanctuary.

That is and having charged. charge at the gates of the house on the sanctuary. So in other words, that's the temple, that's where God resides, right?

Ministers have a connecting coin, in other words, to help usher others into their relationship with God. So they want to see people come into the house of God, they have charge over the gates, let people in or out, right?

Based on our relationship with people, we are inviting them, hopefully, into a relationship with God. Then we read in Ezekiel 46, verse 24, that not only did, let me back up, Ezekiel 44, not only did they have a charge over the gates, they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people.

So they had a connection to the sacrifice that happened in the temple. We know that sacrifice represents what Jesus did for us, dying in the cross for us, right?

So again, if we have a relationship with God, we've experienced and can relate to what God did for us and saving us from our sin, then we point

Others to that same sacrifice, right? Through our relationship with them and through our relationship with God. But what was interesting about Ezekiel 44, partly 46, the next one that we read, it said that the ministers of the house shall boil the sacrifice the people.

Now, there were different types of in the Old Testament. The main sacrifice that was talked about in 44 verse 11, the burnt offering, that was the sacrifice with the lamb completely died for the sin of the nation, for the people, right?

But sometimes people brought their sacrifice that was related to themselves and they were boiled so that it was part of took of others.

You know, once they boiled that sacrifice, they could eat it, right? So the minister has connecting point, not only to the temple, to the relationship of what happened in the temple, the great sacrifice.

In other words, Jesus, we have a connecting point with Jesus to help show other people, Jesus, but then we also have a responsibility as ministers to help.

people understand the things that they're going through, the difficulties, the other type of sacrifice that was boiled represents what happens in your own life.

You go through difficulties. You go through hardships. Everybody does. But we have as ministers, we have a responsibility to help relate to what people go through in their lives and to see that it's not meaningless, that it has value that as scripture says, all things are to work together for good for those who love the Lord.

So if we love God and we are ministers, have a desire to do his passion, to do his pleasure, and we have passion for God.

want to see people enter into relationship with the Jesus, and we help them start to understand what's happening in their life can actually be used by God.

Does this all make sense so far? we read in Joel chapter 2 how the minister wept between the porch and the altar.

And what that represents is the porch is where people would come to first get to know God. Right? They had no relationship.

They just enter in the porches kind of waiting here. was called the porch of the Gentiles, if you will.

So it was people who really didn't have a relationship with God, but they stood between it and the altar.

The altar is where the sacrifice happened. And this shows you the link that ministers have to help usher people into that relationship with God.

But how do they do it? They wept. They went. What did they say as they went? But spare thy people.

Why? Because it ended with how should, how else would they know their God? They need to know God, in other words.

So we intercede, ministers intercede for those who don't know God. They pray for them. They may even weep for them.

cry out to God for them on their behalf. seek to help usher people into them. Meaningful relationship. And then we read in 2 Corinthians 3 and 6 that ministers are now of the New Testament, not the Old Testament.

Luke read, the Old Testament was about the if you fail, you're leading to death, right? The wages of sin or death.

And in the Old Testament, all you had was law. You didn't have to sacrifice yet because Jesus hadn't come yet in the Old Testament.

The Old Testament was like, if you fail God, that's it. Sorry. can't follow His rules and regulations. You're dead, right?

You're going to hell. There's no option, right? you follow the letter of the law. And so when we got to the New Testament and Jesus died for our sin, He made a way for us to experience life.

Now that He was of the Spirit, the Spirit was released. The Spirit gives life. So not only do we intercede for people and we bring them into relationship with God, we help them to discover life.

We bring real life and meaning to their lives by ministering to them. And again, how do we do it all?

By the relationship we first have for God that we simply display to others. And that's why in chapter 3, verse 6, of Chris Grinsons,

Means we don't have to know everything in the Old Testament. You had to know everything in order to follow it And we don't have to know everything.

We are simply to be led by the spirit according to 2 Corinthians 3 6 So to summarize again, what is the minister?

Follows God loves God desires to please him Secondly has a passion for God Third is a connecting point to people to come into the Relationship of God or the house of God Four helps people relate to the sacrifice of Christ Right and five helps people enter into a relationship with with Christ personally Not just to know about the sacrifice that Christ made but to enter into that relationship personally and six They intercede for them.

They pray for them. They help them and seven. You don't have to know everything You just have to be led by the spirit.

Okay So now we understand what it means to be administered The second responsibility we had from 1 Corinthians 4 Was weird to be stewards of the mysteries of God.

So the next question logical question is what is the story? This is why I had that question on the poll.

Many people think that the steward is simply over finances, but we have to get to the Greek word to understand what is it translated as.

That Greek word, and again, I'm going to butcher the pronunciation here, but I'll try my best. And it's also translated not only as steward but as chamberlain or governor.

It's better understood as a household manager. Or a think of like a butler, if you will, right? got this great big mansion.

It's the butler who knows everything that's going on in that house. Right? the people who are coming from going, organizing the cooks, organizing the cleaning, organizing the schedule, the manager over at all.

It's not their mansion. It's not their finances. It's not their fleet of cars. It's not their food in the kitchen.

But they're overseeing everything flowing through. So that's the idea of what a steward is. The Oxford dictionary defines the word manager as a person responsible for controlling or administering all or part of a company or a similar organization.

So, in this case, we are over the household of God, right? So, what that really means is we are meant to help people get to know God for themselves, but as we do, we are meant to steward or manage the mysteries God has given us or revealed to us.

Okay? You with me so far? This is all making sense? Okay. Before then we discuss the mysteries of God from the main scripture text, we need to answer few other questions.

If we are to steward the mysteries, then one, we need to understand what is a mystery. And again, I flip to the Oxford dictionary and it defines the word mystery as one, something that is difficult or impossible to understand or explain.

Or two, It's a person or thing whose identity or nature is puzzling Okay If those are the two definitions if we go with the first definition Many people will say well then a mystery can't be understood or solved right?

Have you ever have you ever had that excuse come up like you're talking about the things of God and maybe they say well It's a mystery and they kind of write it off like like you'll never understand it because it's a mystery You ever you ever had that happen to you?

Okay, I know I have But I think that's an excuse. That's a lame excuse Because then it would be if that was the case it would be cruel for God to say then that we are to manage the mysteries of God Because if that was really the case and mysteries can't be solved.

How can you manage something that can't be solved? bother right it makes no sense. It's not logical and God is a logical God So it has to be more about the second definition And what was that second definition again that the person or things whose identity or nature is puzzling?

Well, think about puzzle. ever do a jigsaw puzzle, right? You're given something to reference as you put that puzzle together, you find pieces, and you start to see picture as you put those pieces together.

a puzzle is solvable. puzzle gives you reference points, and in the end, have a clear understanding of what it is you're putting together.

If you didn't even have the box cover of a puzzle, let's say, but you know most of us will start with the edges of the puzzle, right?

Because they're, oh, I have that square edge, right? So we kind of cheated a little bit, right? Which is fair.

It's fine. We all understand that's part of putting a puzzle together. But start putting the edge together. Now you start to see the picture, and now you can start building off of that.

So let's go to first Corinthians chapter 14. First Corinthians chapter 14. And Brittany, would you mind reading verse 30?

for us, please, of chapter 14, 1 Corinthians.

[@30:10](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=1810.66) - **Brittany**

Sure. For God is not a God of disorder, but of peace, as in all of the congregations of the Lord's people.

[@30:24](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=1824.9) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you. So your word disorder is also translated in other versions as confusion. It's not a God of confusion or disorder.

So that means he's got to be the opposite. He is a God of order. He's a God of clarity.

He's a God who provides specifics. And we see that when we think about the story of Noah and the Ark.

God didn't just say, hey, I'm going to cause rain and you better get a boat. Build a boat and I'm going to save you, right?

No, he said, build a boat but build it this way with so many floors and so many levels and so long.

Long and so high and put the window here and put the door here. He was very specific. God is a God of specifics because specifics remove questions.

They remove That disorder they remove the the in clarity. He brings clarification Okay, so God wants us to solve the puzzles, but why Does God give us puzzles?

Why does he give us mysteries rather than making things plain to us? Well, it has everything to do with our free will and the exercising of our free will if we make a choice Then we have shown something about ourselves if God wants us to Go back to the garden of uh Eden in genesis And God had already created angels and we know that because he he says let us make man in our own on our own image So who's he talking to?

Well when you understand that God is one because That's what he told the Jewish people to teach their children, and Deuteronomy 6, I believe it is.

Hero, here's the Lord that God is one, and there's no other gods before these. there's only one guy, he's not talking to other gods in that example, first in Genesis.

So he's either talking to himself, because we do it all the time, we go, well, let's see, what am I going to do today?

word let's is a conjunction for let us. So let's see, let us see, but I'm owning myself, who am I talking to?

either talking to myself, or I'm talking to other people in the room. Same thing with God, when he says, let us make man in our own image, who is he talking to?

Is he talking to himself, or is he talking to others in the room? Who would be others in the room if God is one?

So he's talking to the angels. So he already created angels to serve him. So why does he want to create man if he's already got angels?

And scripture says that God made a man a little bit lower than the angels. He created man because he wanted something to love.

in back by choice. The angels were created. may show love, but they're showing love because they have to, right?

They don't have the same level of choice as man does. Okay, how do we know that? Well, because Lucifer sinned and there were three archangels.

There was Lucifer, Gabriel, and Michael. And when Lucifer sinned and fell from heaven, a third of the angels were thrown out with him.

Now that has to do with leadership. Leadership influences those down below them. So because there's automatic love and obedience, if you will, that channeled up from the lowest angels up to God, when Lucifer fell, of course, third of the angels had to go with them.

They had no choice, right? they reported to him. And again, this idea of there's a requirement to love and to serve, right?

So they had a third of the angel wiped out because of him, because. us, they were linked to that chain of command.

So when God created man, he wanted to create something that would love him back by choice. So how do we show God that we love him?

We exercise that choice. That's why God put two trees in the garden. He said, the tree of life, the tree of knowledge is good and evil.

You can have everything except for the knowledge of good and evil, right? day he is the day he died.

So there was a, there's no fence around those trees. There are no flaming swords around those trees at that time.

They had the choice whether they were going to obey God or not. By exercising a choice to obey, they're showing God.

Yes, I love you. I want to be here. I want to do this because I love you. When they chose to disobey, they were pulling back their love.

So God uses mysteries to help us show us in ourselves that we are making a choice. We're going to either pursue or not pursue the understanding of that mystery in

choosing to pursue, are showing God our love, right? When you have a relationship with somebody, how do you grow that relationship?

What's the best way to grow it?

[@35:09](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=2109.82) - **Luke Huffman**

Anybody? Spend time with them.

[@35:16](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=2116.02) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Spend time. What, what does that do when you spend time together? What kinds of things? What, what happens as you spend time together?

[@35:25](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=2125.28) - **Luke Huffman**

You get to know each other.

[@35:27](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=2127.18) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, because you start asking questions, right? And, you know, you have this conversation that comes up. Oh, where you from?

Oh, I'm from so, so, so what was it like growing up there? Oh, it was like this. Oh, so what was your family like, right?

Because you're finding out you don't, you don't see their whole picture, their whole background, right? You start with a point.

You start unraveling the mystery of who they are, right? By asking these questions, you start to get the picture of who they are.

And they start to get a picture of who you are because you're revealing answers about yourselves, right? So it's going back and forth.

And so it's the same thing with God. He wants relationship. He wants you to start asking questions as he actually asked questions of him He starts to show himself to you the mysteries of himself, right?

We said the definition of a mystery was a person thing who's an identity or nature is puzzling. So you figure it out You start asking questions.

God, who are you? Are you more than one? No, I see in scripture. You're one. Okay? Well, what is the nature of you?

know, I what do you like? Well, we find out he's God of love He's God who's not confusing. We find out all these things about him We build that relationship as we dig into that and ask more meaningful more deep depth questions more personal questions We are proving we are loving God because by loving him We want to know him better when you meet somebody for the first time you have that Let's say you're single and you meet somebody for that first time and you're having those questions and you get to a point where you're like This person just you're saying it's a lot of course, but you're thinking in your head this person just different interests different

background, I'm just not clicking, know, there's just nothing there, you know? And so you kind of like wrap up the questions, you keep it superficial and you move on, right?

But then you meet somebody else and you're like, wow, you start to click, you're building that relationship, you're like, wow, the background is so intriguing and you have the same likes and dislikes and so you get deeper and deeper in that relationship and you spend more and more time together.

Exactly the same thing with God. That's why he chooses mysteries. Let's go to Luke chapter 7. Luke chapter 7, we'll read verse 47.

And Kat, when you have that, do you mind reading that for us? Luke 7 verse 47.

[@37:54](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=2274.58) - **Owner’s iPhone**

Wherefore I say unto thee her sins, which are many are forgiven, for she is loved much but to whom that all is forgiven the same loveth little.

[@38:03](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=2283.56) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

OK, thank you. So we're probably familiar with the story of the Pharisees who bring this woman caught in the act of adultery.

Or probably no, I'm sorry. We are at the Last Supper, and the woman brings in the appointment. And she unites Jesus' feet, right?

And everybody complains about this. Why did she do this, right? And what she does is, I'm sorry, this is at Simon's house.

Thank you. Thank you, Julie. At Simon's house, he walks in. They never watched his feet, which was a custom.

When you walked in somebody's house, somebody's house, she would watch their feet. Nobody watches his feet. This woman comes in, cries at his feet, wipes his feet with tears, right?

And they can't believe she's done this. They can't believe he's. She's talking to her because of the type of woman that she is.

And this is when he says, her sins are forgiven. And she and many, so she loves much, but you know, for those who sins are forgiven, least are loved little.

This puzzled me because isn't sin sinned to God? Doesn't he, how do I say this? Does God judge differently the sin of the live versus sin of murder?

Sin is sin, isn't God? Both will land you in hell. So, if one has been forgiven murder and one's been forgiven a lie, aren't they back on same footing, right?

They both been forgiven. So what's the difference between when he says those who have been forgiven much, love much and those who have been forgiven little, love little?

It can't be in the number of sins, which is the, on the surface, what you would think of, right?

Well, she had a lot of sin in her life, so therefore, you know, forgave her, therefore she loves much.

Well, he only had a couple of sins in his life. No, that can't. can't be because sin is sin to God.

What is the difference then? The difference is in the way they look at how God and what God did for them and the impact it has on them.

In other words, it's about relationship. So in other words, I was watching the movie last night, He'll Billy, He'll Billy Elegy, the JD Vance story of his upbringing, because I wanted to see, learn little bit more about JD Vance.

And it was an interesting story in the sense that I don't know JD Vance from a hole in the wall, right?

I don't know anything about him other than what he was willing to reveal as his story in that movie.

Now, can I say I know JD Vance any better? Maybe a little bit, but I still don't know everything about him, what makes him up, you know, he lives his life.

I just know part of this story now, right? So I see him in a slightly different light. I can appreciate

what he went through because of the story that was told. So I look at him differently now because of the impact that story had on me.

Does this make sense? Okay. when I know my own story, I know the things I went through and the things I've experienced and the sins that I committed before knowing God.

When I came to God, God delivered me of my sin, washed all that away. And I realized his blood made that toning sacrifice for my sin.

It impacts me to a certain extent, right? And I'm going to allow that to a certain extent to change who I am and my future behaviors.

If it only impacts me slightly, I go, okay, that's a good thing that God did. I might read the Bible a little bit here and I might start going to church a little bit more.

But it probably doesn't change my whole behavior as all that much. And maybe I stopped. lying a little bit, maybe I stopped doing some certain things, but I kind of hold on to a few other things in my life.

So it has a minimal impact, you know, but it does have an impact, but it's minimal, you know, so that to me is what you call little love.

But if I get, if I'm impacted by that and I go, wow, I get the depth and the meaning of that and I go, I'm not going to do this, this and this anymore whatsoever.

I'm not even going to entertain the thought of it. I'm going impact. Nothing changed about what God did for me.

It's the same. It's about how I interpret what God did for me that causes a change in me. I hope this makes sense because here's the other part of why I bring up that movie last night because as I was watching that movie last night towards the end, I start to cry and because I'm thinking about my life could have been as bad

is what was showing in that story. If God hadn't saved me, because I know I was on the same kind of directory as what was happening to some of those people in that movie, they were on a downward slope, it was going, you know, disaster after disaster after disaster, their lives were getting ruined, and I was thinking, man, if God hadn't saved me, my life could have ended up just like that, and it impacted me deeply because of that, and I couldn't help but the tears started coming.

It's the way we frame our mindset about what God did first and how God saved us. You realize, even if I told that one line, and God had never made a toning sacrifice for that one line, I'd end up in hell, even if I killed somebody, right, and took away a life, that one action is going to end up in hell.

So, what God did is the same effect as the same image. impact. If I frame it right in my mind, if I understand, right?

If I understand the mystery of what he did, let's go to 2 Timothy, 2 Timothy chapter 2 verse 15.

Julie, would you mind reading that for us please? Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

So if we have a love for God and our love is overflowing, our desire to get into that relationship, to know more about him because of what he did for us, we are going to want to study, to find out, dig in, understand the mystery, we are going to want to discover it, to put the pieces of the puzzle.

together. And scripture encourages us to do that. Timothy, study, that word study means exert some effort, be diligent, labor over it.

To what? show, it's a kind of weird spelling, but it really means like we would spell it, show S H O W or present, present yourself approved.

What does that mean? Accepted or pleasing to whom? To God, or workmen, again, laboring that need not to be ashamed, that word shamed, or guilty, rightly dividing, which means to make straight and smooth, or to handle right, or to teach truth directly and correctly.

So you see, as ministers, those who want to, who want to please God, who have a passion for God, want to help others understand what God has done for them, that he can do for them as well, then you're going to start.

you're going to get into his word to understand it for yourself so that when you relate it to somebody else, it makes sense to them.

You can't just have hardly tried to explain it. You're going to try to explain it a way that they get it.

And so we have a responsibility to understand the word first for our selves, but not so much for just to understand it, but to allow it to shape us and to mold us into the people God wants us to be so that it deepens our love for God thereby motivating us to share it with somebody else in a responsible way.

You see, God knows us as human beings that we have an inquisitoring nature. That's why I asked the question up front, you know, what do you think about mysteries?

He knows we have this inquisitoring nature. We want to know things. We desire understanding, and therefore most of us is even a pole of

showed three out of four of us like mysteries. Television shows, cop shows, murder mysteries, detective shows, right? Such popularity in books and movies and television shows because people had this innate desire to want to solve problems, to solve mysteries.

God knows that about us. So that's again another reason he has shown himself in mystery. Go back to first Corinthians 4 that we read.

We have two responsibilities. To be Minister of Christ, to be a steward of the mystery. We now know what a steward is.

a manager over something and we now know what a mystery is. So how do you steward or manage the mystery of God?

Well first you have to understand the mystery yourself. You can't manage something you don't understand. If you are if you are hired let's say as a

manager of a financial fund, right, but you don't have a financial background, you don't understand how finances work. What do you think is going to happen to that fund?

Probably go bankrupt, right? It's going to take because you don't understand it. So if you are placed in a managerial position, whether you whether you want to be or not, you better understand that, right?

Let's say you're placed in that managerial fund management level, you better quickly find out what it means to run a managerial fund, right?

You don't want to, you can say, well I quit, I give up, right? But then let's say your career is over, right?

Nobody wants that. So you're placed in that position, what are you going to do? It's either sink or swim, right?

You entered into a relationship with God, I'm sorry to say this, but it's either sink or swim. You are meant to keep growing in that relationship with God.

God is the God of creativity and growth. He said to Noah, replenish your be fruitful and multiply. Every description that God has when He saves us is not for us just to be stagnant.

Life is not stagnant. The Spirit brings life, meaning it continues to grow, to expand, to replenish, to be fruitful.

to be a steward over the mystery means you better understand it yourself. If you don't understand it, what do you do?

Dig into the Word. Find out. Learn it for yourself, right? Solving a mystery takes work. You have to investigate, interview other people, gather evidence, right?

This is kind of silly, but I googled, how do you solve a mystery? And according to wikihow.com, these are the steps to solve a mystery.

You develop an eye for detail, okay? You got to notice this. Secondly, increase your concentration. You got to remove distractions.

practice self-discipline and meditation boy that sounds like the Christian life doesn't it right there Third you have to take good notes, maybe journal study in other words Number four you've got to improve your recall Maybe you do that through analogies or stories you create acronyms or rhymes or do a little word play or even a jingle Song or two songs and hymns spiritual songs right to be active in your learning and improve your recall Number five you hone your logical skills.

You make inferences. You judge the validity of arguments and you reach a conclusion based on reason and Then number six the obvious avoid fallacies or being deceived These all things sound like things in the Christian life don't they?

So God is telling us when we are to be stewards of the mysteries There's a lot there have an eye for detail increase your concentration with him take good notes

What's about what you're learning from them? Read read his stories, create spiritual songs, you know, have some logic and avoid the deception.

So once you understand the mystery, the next thing is you have to maintain it. You are responsible for maintaining mystery.

In other words, you must believe it. If you solve the puzzle and put them all together, go, wow, that's a picture of, I don't know, let's say a cardinal, right?

And somebody takes that puzzle piece back apart. You still look at that puzzle and say, that's still a cardinal.

You know it because you've experienced it, right? You don't walk around and let somebody go, well, that's a Bluejay puzzle.

Well, I'm sorry. I know it's a cardinal. You don't get tricked up by these other things that come at you different ways of looking at it because you've studied it yourself and you know, that is a cardinal.

matter what you say, what you do, how you put the pieces together, I know because I've put it all together, I've seen it, I've experienced it.

Make sense? Okay. Okay. So let's go to Mark. Mark chapter nine, we're almost done here. Mark chapter nine verse 23.

And I forgot where I'm at, who's reading? So Luke, you mind reading Matthew, or Mark chapter nine, verse 23, please?

[@52:27](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3147.38) - **Luke Huffman**

Yes. What do you mean, if I can, Jesus asks, anything is possible if a person believes?

[@52:37](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3157.62) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So even Jesus is encouraging a constant belief, right? In the King James, it says, hymn that beliveth, that little t-h on the end of the words in the King James, means to continuously.

So in other words, to continuously believe, he that continuously believes. There's an importance about what initially first believing But maintaining that belief is what Jesus is pushing.

Since we're in Mark, let's go to chapter 16. And let's read verse 17. At least you remind reading that, Ruth.

[@53:15](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3195.46) - **Alicia**

Sure. And these signs will accompany those who believe. In my name, they will drive out demons.

[@53:22](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3202.44) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

They will speak in new tongues. Do you notice the layout of this verse? The signs follow after you believe.

So in other words, you can't do the work of God unless you believe. So in other words, you can't properly steward the mysteries of God unless you first believe and maintain that belief.

So to steward a mystery, understand it, you have to believe in it. Thirdly, have to be able to share it appropriately.

That is with discernment, knowing to whom to share it, and When to share and what to share, right? Let's go to Matthew chapter 7.

Matthew 7, let's read verse 6. Brittany, do mind reading verse 6 for us of Matthew 7?

[@54:30](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3270.9) - **Brittany**

Do not give dogs what is sacred. Do not throw your pearls to faves. If you do, they may trample them under their feet and turn and tear you to pieces.

[@54:42](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3282.14) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So here Jesus is saying you have something valuable. You've got something holy and if you can't understand the spiritual aspect, let's translate not only spirituals, the most valuable thing is something called holy, but if you can't try to understand spiritual, let's equate it to something valuable in the natural pearls.

You wouldn't throw pearls but force line, right, in the mud, in the muck, and let him trample him, even that I try to eat him and digest him, right?

So he said, that would be crazy. You have to know to who to share. Here's here's an example that I'm dealing with personally.

So while that maybe month or two ago, there was this Facebook post question about what does it really mean to be filled with spirit?

I've answered that. We'll talk about that again in future lessons if you want. But I answered it and there's a lot of debate.

I'll say, boom, ton of people responding on this thing saying, no, no one, yes, no, yes. And after while, I realized, you know what, it's a pointless argument because either you get it or you don't.

And just, and so I left it. And just again, over the last few days, all of a sudden, people are commenting on the same thing.

so I'm seeing notifications in my Facebook pop up about it. I'm thinking, I'm not getting bothered responding because that would be throwing some pearls before swine.

They're not that. There's no point. You have to have discernment to know when to approach something and when not to approach something, right?

Is somebody really wanting to know an answer or do they want to have an argument? Sometimes that's a hard thing to discern.

And the way you discern that is you maybe start the conversation and you start normal. But also when that person gets intense and emotional about it, you might go, well, wait a minute.

I can see this just wants to lead to an argument. So you don't continue the conversation. But if there's sincerity there about wanting to know, you can have a dialogue, right?

can have, sometimes it's a little passionate dialogue, but you get the, you understand from the way the person's responding physically, verbally, right?

You'll be able to draw the picture. Let's go to John chapter 16. John 16, let's read verse. Well, you for you skip Matthew seven six just by the way, I thought we just read that Yeah, about sorry I'm glad you're on top of it.

I'm saving or not glad you're making sure that I'm not sleeping Let's go to John chapter 16 and verse 12.

[@57:24](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3444.56) - **Alicia**

You should be mind-reading that for us Oh John chapter 16 verse 12 Okay, verse 12 Says I have much more to say to you more than you can now bear

So that's it.

[@58:03](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3483.72) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So this is Jesus saying to his disciples, hey, look, I got a lot more to teach you, but you're not ready to receive it yet.

That's okay. We have to have that same discernment when we're sharing the Word of God, the mysteries of God, the things that we're learning about God.

One, is it somebody who just wants an argument, then avoid that. Don't you don't unload the boat at the dock right on them, right?

And I've done that before, unfortunately, and I've I've seen the consequence of that. I had a Bible study. I started one on one with a woman from a place that I worked and her husband, and I started sharing.

We were exciting, and I misread the situation, and I shared way too much for them because I came back the next time, and they said, we don't want to continue the Bible study.

You know, it broke my heart, and I feel like it was because I over shared, you know, I shared too much.

They just weren't ready to handle it, you know. So we make mistakes, I get that. But if we can learn from our mistakes, that's what's important, right?

And like Jesus was pointing out here to the disciples, hey, sometimes you can tell when somebody's ready to receive and just don't give them the whole enchilada when all they mean is a bite, okay?

Let's also go to Luke chapter 22, Luke chapter 22, and verse 67, bread be when you find Luke 22, would you mind reading verse 67 for us please?

[@59:48](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3588.62) - **Brittany**

Yes, just words, okay, 67. Okay, if you are the Messiah, they said, tell us, Jesus answered, if I tell you, you will not believe me.

[@1:00:08](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3608.04) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

All right, so sometimes one, we got like we read Matthew seven, people who just were looking for an argument, doesn't matter.

You got all the people who just aren't ready for it yet, but you got some people who would just, it doesn't matter what you say, right, no argument trying to be had, it just, they, they aren't going to get it.

It isn't going to change your life, know, it's, it's a little sad, some people just put up this wall, this act of indifference or whatever it might be.

So again, discernment, knowing when to share, to share, what to share. Lastly, John chapter three, John chapter three, verse 12.

Kat, would you read that for us, You might be on mute there, Cat. Yeah, come back around to Cat.

Julie, do you mind raising that for us, please? Yes, please. I have spoken to you about earthly things, and you do not believe.

How, then, will you believe, if I speak of heavenly things? You have to be able to build, like we talked about relationships, right?

Relationships can build through the conversation, but you build upon what you're talking about, right? A little bit, as Isaiah says, line upon line, and present.

When you build a building, you dig the foundation, you put the foundation, then you put the support. up and then you put the next floor on then you put the next support beans up and then you put the next blood right because you have to when you're sharing as a minister to somebody else your relationship with God again you don't feed him the whole enchilada and maybe you don't start in the middle you start with something basic right you start with something that they can relate to that they can understand and from that foundation from that initial groundwork you can then build a little bit more right and so we see the four principles here at work and when you understand the mystery you believe it and now you're willing to share it with appropriateness and discernment knowing whom to share it with knowing when to share knowing that some people are going to resist and some you're going to have to work with slowly make sense okay so excuse me so we talked about the two responsibilities we had from first Corinthians 4 being minister of

Christ, we're all called to minister, meaning in other words, share our relationship God, to just steward the history of God.

And then that responsibility that came with that is to be found faithful. We understand what that means to be consistent, to be faithful towards God.

But what is the mystery that was talked about, right? What are the mysteries or mystery of God? Well, let's read just a few of them.

We're not going to dive into all of them, but we're going to see something about them overall. not going to comment on them after we've read these scriptures, and then we'll be done, okay?

So we have a few scriptures to read, we'll just read them one after the other, and then I will come make comment and we'll wrap it up, okay?

So the first mystery, Ephesians chapter 6. Ephesians chapter 6 verse 19. Luke, do you mind reading Ephesians 6 verse 19, please?

[@1:04:02](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3842.16) - **Luke Huffman**

Okay. And pray for me to ask God to give me the right word so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the good news is for Jews and Gentiles alike.

[@1:04:18](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3858.6) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you. So the mystery, that was the good news or what we call the gospel, right? So the history of gospel.

Colossians chapter one, Colossians chapter one. Alicia, would you read verses 26 and 27 things, Colossians 1, 26 and 27.

[@1:04:40](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3880.86) - **Alicia**

Sure. Let me just get there. Why am I not finding it?

[@1:04:53](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3893.1) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Help me out here. It's just two books, yeah, two books right after Ephesians.

[@1:04:57](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3897.8) - **Alicia**

So the right of the. Okay. I'm clearly not with it today.

[@1:05:06](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3906.1) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay, no problem.

[@1:05:07](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3907.46) - **Alicia**

right, Chapter one versus 26 and 27. Okay, the mysteries that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people.

[@1:05:29](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3929.14) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

To them, God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you and the hope of glory.

[@1:05:59](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3959.0) - **Brittany**

Sure. Beyond all questions, the mystery from which screw guy with his friends is great. He appeared in the flesh, was vindicated by the spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed in, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

[@1:06:18](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=3978.48) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you. So the mystery of godliness or god manifest in the flesh. Romans, let's go to Romans chapter 11, Romans 11, and we're going to read verse 25.

Kat, if you're back with us, if you have a chance to unmute and want to read Romans 11 verse 25.

[@1:06:41](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4001.22) - **Owner’s iPhone**

This is my actual favorite verse of all that I found the Lord gave me long the time ago. Listen, for I would not brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own conceits that blindness and part

[@1:07:00](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4020.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

It's happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles to camp and so all israel Somebody saved as it is written Thank you, so we have a mystery that God is going to bring in the fullness of the Gentiles Let's go to 1 Corinthians 15 chapter 15 of 1 Corinthians and Julie would you read for us first 51 please yes, please Listen, we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed So we will all be changed I understand but we need to move on and then Ephesians let's go back to Ephesians chapter 3 Ephesians 3 It is I know this is a longer going to go ahead and read this myself Ephesians 3 and read verses 3 through 9 it says how that by revelation he may known unto

me, the mystery. As I wrote a four in few words, whereby when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ, which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit, that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs of the same body and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel.

Whereof I was made a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power, unto me who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.

So we have the mystery that Gentiles and the foundation of the world. And then lastly, let's read Ephesians 5 verses 31 and 32.

Would you read that for us, Luke, please, Ephesians 5, verses 31 and 32.

[@1:09:08](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4148.8) - **Luke Huffman**

As the scripture says, man leaves his father and mother, and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

This is a great mystery, but it is illustrated in the way Christ and the church are one.

[@1:09:24](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4164.38) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay, thank you. So what we see here, because what I did in grabbing those particular verses that talked about mysteries, I looked up the word mystery in Bible gateway using the King James Version.

Like I said, I use that version when I study, but it came up with 22 scriptures. And of those 22 scriptures, these are the ones that related to true mystery.

So what we see from these is the overall mystery. This is putting the pieces of the puzzle together just slightly.

So I can give you a little bit of a bigger picture, not the entire picture. But what we see from these is that the mystery of God is the gospel, the good news that Jesus Christ was created from the foundation of the world when God bought about this world and created man.

He knew what would happen long before it ever came to play. So he had this idea of Jesus before he even spoke the world into existence.

And so he said, okay, I'm going to give good news, there's salvation coming through Jesus. I will put myself in a human body, the manifest in flesh.

I'll put myself in the human body to pay for their sins. And I'm going to reconcile the entire world, not just the Jewish people, but I'm going to bring the Gentiles into the entire world for this is for everybody.

And when I do this, then I'm going to be able to pour my life into everyone. I'm going to be able to breathe into them my spirit.

They're going to have Christ in them, which would be the hope of glory. What is that glory? To be pulled out of this world and brought back into relationship and full existence with me in heaven.

If you go back and since you've got the list here, given in the in the chat, if you go back and you read those Starting with scripture number 18 through the end 24, you'll see that picture I encourage you to study that you're going to see it for yourself as well That what the real mystery that we are stewards over is the fact that Jesus came and died for our sin He paid the price to reconcile all mankind He wants to fill us with his holy spirit In order that we can be reconciled Not only in this world would be drawn to him in life ever life to come everlasting in heaven That's simple Now we have to do is share it with others Makes sense All right, that's the end of my my particular lesson in questions or thoughts or how did this impact you today I know we had the poll but like how did how did it actually impact you today?

What thoughts come up as a result?

[@1:12:04](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4324.9) - **Luke Huffman**

Well, I like how we, we are stewards of a mystery, know, that this is not just something that everyone, you know, without diligence and without training and without study could know.

Right? mean, you have to be proactive and deliberate. Yes. I think that's what I see.

[@1:12:25](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4345.88) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah. cool. Thank you, Luke. I appreciate that. Anybody else? What thoughts are happening? What do you think about? How did it stir you today?

Julie? Yeah. I know more and more got is showing me how important it is for us to be solid and firm in his word, especially in the world that we're looking

there's going to be so many times, so many false prophets for lack of a better word, and so many deceivers that you're going to have to stand really firm in your faith and the only way that you can do that is through the knowledge of the Word of God and not allowing yourself to be deceived and helping others on their journey so they also learn to see it.

So having the knowledge of these mysteries, the Word of God, and for truly owning it in your own walk with God, I think that is so key in the current climate of the world that we live in.

That's very well said, I agree, very good. Anybody else? Otherwise, we'll go ahead and conclude with prayer and give one more chance here.

Anybody else? Okay. Lord Jesus, I'm grateful again for this lesson, for your word, for your impact upon us, God, help us to just build that desire, that passion for you, for your word to know you, to share with others, God, what you're revealing to us.

We thank you, God, for giving us understanding, for giving us wisdom, revelation, Lord. God, may we never take it from granted.

We always appreciate you because of what you're showing us. May we just fall deeper and deeper in love with you.

It may be evident how we live our lives and how we share with others. God, us wisdom and discernment to know whom you're sending us to, to know whom we are to minister to God in the right place, the right time, the right words.

Thank you, Jesus. Give you glory and praise in Jesus name. Well, as always, too, want to open it up for any prayer requests.

If there's anything somebody would like us to pray about it during the next couple weeks, we can do that too.

So anybody have prayer requests? Okay. Well, then I'm just going to say one more quick blessing over us and you guys have a great weekend where Jesus again blessed my friends for coming today.

Thank you for blessing the weeks ahead as they walk through life. Just continue to guide the lead and inspire them and protect them in Jesus name.

Amen. All right. Thank you everyone. Enjoy the rest of the weekend and we'll see you in two weeks.

[@1:15:28](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4528.82) - **Owner’s iPhone**

God bless. Thank you, Rick.

[@1:15:30](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4530.64) - **Luke Huffman**

Thank you.

[@1:15:33](https://fathom.video/share/vPcJpVhqUXJSf2JJEVqzxuAPX824zWFy?timestamp=4533.02) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Bye.