



YOUTH
session page

The Mystery of Ministry

Ephesians 3:1-12 | Session 10.01

Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Provide paper and pens for everyone (See Closure).
- Listen to the FaithElement podcast for this session.
- Use the social media prompts on this session's webpage to help youth begin engaging the session ahead of their gathering.
- Find web links for underlined items on this session's webpage at faithelement.net.

Intro

Play the [Phineas and Ferb video](#) and ask:

- How frustrated do you think Candace would be about the mysterious force?
- What makes her come across as crazy?
- What are the greatest mysteries you can think of?

Context

Play a game of Wink Murder Mystery by having the group sit in a circle. You will need to have a method to identify secretly one of the participants as the "winker/murderer," such as giving everyone a card with one card being the identifier, or having everyone close their eyes and walking around the circle and tapping someone to identify them as the "winker." Begin the game by having everyone look at each other across the circle. When the winker is ready, they should wink at someone, who must act out a dramatic death, then move on to someone else and repeat the process.

Encourage people to be as entertaining as they wish with their acting. If someone sees the murderer wink at someone who is not themselves, they may accuse the murderer of the crime, and if they correctly identifies the murderer, they win the game. Anyone who is winked at cannot identify the murderer. After several rounds of the game, regroup and ask:

- How did you feel playing this game?
- What made it difficult or easy?
- How do you feel about a good mystery and what makes it "good"?
- What is it about a mystery that draws some people to it?
- In what ways is God mysterious?
- Do you think God would prefer to be known or to be mysterious and why?
- When has God done something that you could not explain or understand?

Content

Read [Ephesians 3:1-12](#), then watch the Bible Background Video.

Ask your group:

- What mystery is Paul talking about in this passage?
- Why would God want to make this mystery known to Paul?
- When have you personally experienced this mystery?
- Why did Paul choose to follow Christ?
- What makes Paul feel that this calling was chosen for him rather than chosen by him?

Closure

Share "[The Top 27 Sports Fails:...](#)" (Note: Unbleeped profanity at 2:20) and ask:

- Which of these did you find the most or least funny and why?
- What is something you are really good at or really bad at?
- How might God use your gifts and talents to serve God?
- Given the way God has created you, if God were to call you into some form of ministry, what might God call you into?
- If God were calling you to serve, how would you know to listen?
- How do you generally understand God's voice in your life when you hear it?

Close this session in prayer.

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