SUMMER OF ENCOURAGEMENT

THE PRISON EPISTLES

EPHESIANS 3

A FATHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

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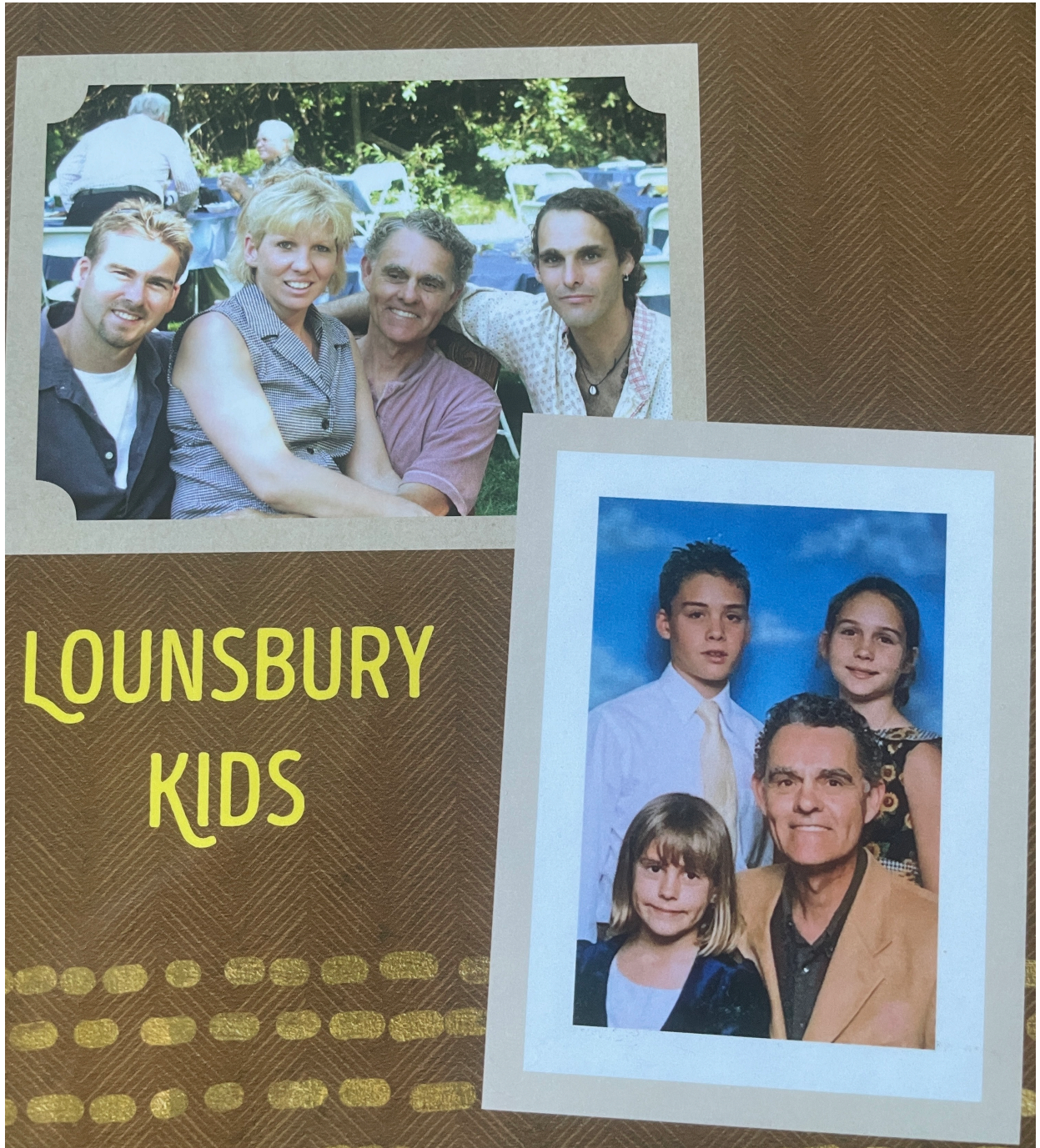

EPHESIANS 3:1

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—

EPHESIANS 3:2-5

Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, **3** that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. **4** In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, **5** which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

MYSTERY?

I love my Dad
I love my Daughter

EPHESIANS 3:6

This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs *together* with Israel, members *together* of one body, and sharers *together* in the promise in Christ Jesus.

EPHESIANS 3:7

I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.

EPHESIANS 3:8-9

Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, **9** and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

EPHESIANS 3:10-11

His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, 11 according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

MANIFOLD MULTI-FACETED WISDOM OF GOD

EPHESIANS 3:12-13

In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. 13 I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory..

EPHESIANS 3:14-15

For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

EPHESIANS 3:16-18

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

EPHESIANS 3:19

..and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

QUESTION

How has God encouraged you?

How can you pass it on?