

Colossians 1:24-27

A Servant's Role in the Church

Joyful Suffering for the Church (v. 24)

Committed Service to the Church (v. 25)

Revelation Shared with the Church (vv. 26-27)

Application of Colossians 1:24-27

1. Suffering is the expected and normal outcome for a believer (John 15:18-21). How does Paul view suffering in this passage? See also Acts 5:41; Rom 5:3; Phil 1:15-18; 2:17; James 1:2; Heb 12:3. Ask God to help you view suffering with an attitude of joy.
2. It's interesting Paul refers to himself here as a 'minister/servant of the church,' not a servant of Christ. While a believer is a certainly a servant of Christ, in what ways does being a 'servant of the church' (the universal church) affect your perspective on the role and priority of serving the church? In what ways should you consider the church as you make decisions?
3. Consider your time, money, spiritual gifts, and abilities as a blessing from the Lord that He has entrusted you with. Now as a steward of these things how might you best serve His church?
4. Consider and praise God for the riches of the glory of the mystery that salvation has been offered to Jews and Gentiles. See also Eph 3:2-10; Eph 2:11-22
5. What does it mean that "Christ is in you?" Look up other references speaking of Christ/Spirit being in believers (e.g. John 14:15-17, 23; Rom 8:9-10; 1 Cor 6:19; Gal 2:20, Eph 3:16-19) reflect upon this truth, and thank the Lord for this reality.
6. Study passages that describe the future believers will experience with God in eternity e.g. Luke 23:43; 2 Cor 4:16-18; Titus 2:13; 2 Pet 3:13; Rev 21:1-7. Allow this truth to not only soak into your mind, but be an expression of praise and source of comfort and encouragement.

Reading this week: Continue reading Colossians 1 this week, although I plan to preach Hebrews 10:24-25 next week.

Sermon Notes for Children (or Children at Heart)

Date _____

Pastor _____

<u>Book</u>	<u>Sermon Main Points</u>	<u>Other Bible References:</u>
<u>Chapter</u>	A _____ role in the _____ _____ Suffering for the Church (v. _____)	_____
<u>Verses</u>	_____ Service to the _____ (v. 25) Revelation _____ with the _____ (vv. 26-27)	_____

Words you heard during the sermon (tally each time)

God/Father	Christ/Jesus/Lord	Church	Mystery	Paul	Suffering

What is the message about? _____

How can you do this? _____

What/who can you pray for? _____

Draw a picture related to the message: