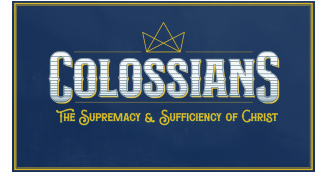


Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, May 29, 2022

Scripture: Colossians 1:24-29



THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

Paul turns from the message of the gospel to the three-fold ministry of the gospel: the ministry of suffering, the ministry of stewardship, and the ministry of sanctification.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

- In what ways did Paul suffer for the sake of the gospel? Why could he rejoice? How did his suffering benefit the church at Colossae and the church at large (Acts 9:15-16)?
- How do you react when you are ridiculed for your faith? What is God producing in and through us amidst our suffering (1 Peter 4:12-16)?
- What does Paul mean by "filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions" for the church? Explain what this reveals about Christ's relationship with his church (Acts 9:5).
- How did Paul serve as a steward of the gospel (verse 25)? Are you stewarding well the gifts God has given you for the church's edification?
- What is the mystery God has graciously revealed (verse 26-27)? Does this truth strengthen your confidence, joy, and hope?
- What does it mean that Christ is in us (verse 27)?
- What are the two ways Paul proclaims our hope in Christ (verse 28)? What is the goal of Christian maturity (sanctification), and how do we cultivate that maturity (verse 29; Romans 8:29; Philippians 2:12)?