

COLOSSIANS

Life in our supreme & sufficient Savior

Colossians – Life in our Supreme & Sufficient Savior

Review of Background

- Occasion: False teachers have promised ritual ways to experience God’s presence and blessing (mysticism/legalism). Paul’s correction in the letter is that those who have trusted in Jesus can already experience the fullness of God’s presence through what has been provided already for the believer in Jesus.
- Theme verse: “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.” (Colossians 2:9-10)
- Theme of the Class: Life in our Supreme & Sufficient Savior

Class Outline

- Part 1: The Preeminence of Christ in Christian Thinking (1-3:4)
- Part 2: The Preeminence of Christ in Christian Living (3:5-4:6)

Lesson 4 – Colossians 1:24-29

Big Idea:

Jesus’ supremacy motivates us as stewards to be ministers of the gospel.

Application/Personal Reflection

Rejoice in suffering for Christ.

- Paul had joy in his suffering because it benefitted the church. *How do you generally respond to hard things?*
- Paul was willing to suffer for Christ and for the edification of the body of Christ. How do you respond to suffering for the sake of Christ?
- Paul looked beyond his own needs to the needs of the body of Christ. Are you willing to do hard things to serve others even if it involves suffering? Are you willing to do things that inconvenience you if it ministers to others?

Minister the hope of glory, Christ in you.

- Paul stewarded God's glory with such zeal and fervor that it consumed him. *What tends to get in our way as believers from fulfilling our stewardship as ministers of the gospel and ministers of the church of God? What often gets in your way of being obedient to Christ?*
- Paul proclaimed the Word of God because it greatly benefitted the whole body of Christ. *How have you seen the Word of God at work in ministering to other believers in our church?*
- The hope of glory is Christ's indwelling the believer. *How does Christ living inside of you bring hope to your current situation? How does this truth motivate you to share of the hope that outlasts this*

life? Who will you share this hope with this week?

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Proclaim Christ in order to mature believers.

- Paul did not simply see his ministry as reaching people but also presenting them as mature believers. How does the way you do ministry follow Paul's pattern? What needs to change?
- Paul saw maturity in Christ as Christlikeness. *What can be mistaken for Christian maturity?* How does your conduct reveal your belief about Christ's Supremacy and Sufficiency in your life? What needs to change?
- How has your life in this past week followed the example of the Colossians in their relation to God?
 - Legalism – I have to do things a certain way in order to be good enough for God.
 - Sentimentalism – I have to feel a certain way about my faith.
 - Materialism – I find my hope and joy in my possessions.

Labor by the power of Christ working in you.

- Paul labored for the glory of God by the power of God in Christ. We to have this ministry as stewards to labor hard for His glory by his sanctifying work in us. We can be strengthened through...
 - Prayer.
 - Preaching the gospel to ourselves daily.
 - Obeying God's commands in Scripture.
 - Fleeing from our sin through confession and repentance.
 - "..."