

Colossians - Paul's Labor for The Church

March 23/24

Memory Verse:

Colossians 1:15-20 (NLT)

15 Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.

He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,

16 for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.

He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—

such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.

17 He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.

18 Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything.

19 For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,

20 and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.



Colossians 1:24-29 Paul's Work for The Church

Colossians 2:1-5 Paul's Prayer for The Church



Personal Application

Colossians Challenge:

2nd Week Read the Letter to the Colossians (with a partner)

Memorization: Colossians 1:15-20 (NLT)

Part 1 (Large Group Discussion): Message Recap/Digging Deeper



- What stood out to you about this weekend's message, and/or what questions do you still have?
- Look closely at how Paul describes his passion and sacrifice for the church. Here are words/phrases found in the NLT: suffer for you (1:24), serving (1:25), proclaiming (1:25), warning (1:28), teaching (1:28), work and struggle so hard (1:29), agonized for you (2:1). What in your life do you work toward, struggle with, suffer for, and agonize over? Is what you mentioned worthy of that kind of toil?
- What do you think is meant by "glory" in Colossians 1:27?
- What kinds of wisdom have you acquired as you've grown in knowledge of Jesus? (Colossians 2:3)
- How do you think what Paul writes about in Colossians 2:2-3 serves to protect against what he warns about in Colossians 2:4?
- Paul says in Colossians 2:5 that he is full of joy/delight because of the discipline and maturity the Colossians are exemplifying. Think of the people closest to you—friends, spouses, kids, etc. What are the kinds of things that make you the proudest of them? Are there things you want for them as much or more than a firm faith in Christ?

Part 2 (Small Group Discussion): Personal Application

- What have been the toughest things you have endured for the sake of Christ? What has been your attitude in the midst of those things? Pray, as a group, that you would be able to rejoice, like Paul did (even in prison!) in the midst of suffering.