



Colossians



SHEPHERDCHURCH

Week 3: The Mystery of All Time Revealed

Welcome

(Choose one of the following questions to answer)

- Share about a time when you learned something new that changed how you saw a situation or person?
- Outside of your relationship with Jesus, brings you the most joy?

Worship

Read **Romans 16:25-27** aloud as a group. Then spend a few moments in silence reflecting on this question: What does it stir in you to know that God has chosen to reveal His mystery to you in Christ? After the silence, have someone pray and thank God for His revealed truth and wisdom.

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Word

(If you haven't already, watch the video lesson and read **Colossians 1:24-25**)

1. According to **Colossians 1:24; 2 Corinthians 1:5-7; and Philippians 3:7-10**, what was Paul's view of suffering? What role did suffering play in his identity and mission?

2. How can suffering (if embraced appropriately) be a way of participating in Christ's redemptive work? In what area(s) of your life might God be calling you to a deeper commitment that involves discomfort, service, or sacrifice for the spiritual benefit of others?

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3. What words and metaphors does Paul use to describe himself in *Colossians 1:23-25*?

4. In your opinion, who are some modern-day faithful servants of Jesus?

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5. Based on **Colossians 1:26-27**, what is the "mystery that has been kept hidden for ages"? How does this compare with what Paul wrote in **Ephesians 3:4-6**? How does the mystery influence your values and the way you live?

6. Read **Colossians 1:28-29 and 2 Timothy 4:1-5**. What is Paul's view of and approach to ministry? In your opinion, what kind of spiritual endurance is needed to "proclaim Christ" in today's world?

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7. After studying **Colossians 1** for three weeks, share one or two of your personal takeaways from Colossians 1.

Witness

In the video lesson, Brian said, "We don't lead simply to build programs... we do it because the mystery has been revealed, and the world needs to know." How have you been tempted to make ministry about performance rather than proclamation? Share one way you can make "Christ in you" unmistakable in your relationships this week.

ALSO— continue planning your outreach project as a Life Group. If you've already chosen a direction, begin assigning responsibilities and setting a firm date. If you haven't picked one yet, be sure and do so today.

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Personal Reflection & Deeper Study for this Week

- Memorize **Colossians 1:27** or **Colossians 1:27-28**.
- Compare **Colossians 1:24 with Philipians 1:29; 3:7-10; and 2 Timothy 2:10**. Then reflect and write on the following questions:
 - o What was Paul's view of trials and sufferings?
 - o What part of Paul's mindset toward suffering do I need to grow in?
 - o With your reflections on the previous questions in mind, what does it mean for you to live with "Christ in me, the hope of glory" (**Colossians 1:27**)?
- Study the use of the word "mystery" in **Romans 16:25-27; Ephesians 1:9-10; 3:1-6; Colossians 1:26-27; 2:2-3** and write down your reflections on the following questions:
 - o How does each passage describe the mystery of God?
 - o What does it mean that the mystery is now revealed?
 - o How should this truth shape your daily life and spiritual priorities?
- Compare **Colossians 1:29 with Philipians 2:12-13**. Who lives your life and works to grow your faith—you, Jesus, or both? In what area of life do you need Christ's strength to keep going?