

Colossians 1:24-29
Make Known the Mystery of the Gospel!

God has entrusted each of us with the privilege and responsibility to **serve** the cause of Christ by **sharing** the gospel of Christ to **build up** the body of Christ

Pauls example provides a compelling motivation for the Colossian church, and for us, to participate in the gospel mission- to “make known the mystery of the gospel.”

I. Suffering as Ministers of the Church, 24-25a

- II Timothy 3:10-12- the fact of persecution for the believer
- Rejoice in suffering! (24)
 - Hold to an eternal perspective on this earthly existence.
 - Find joy in the *purpose* behind the suffering, not in suffering itself
- Hebrews 9:12; 10:14 (24)
- God commissions us as servants/stewards/ministers of his church (25a)

II. Labor for Them to Know the Mystery of Christ, 25b-29

- The purpose of our calling- to present to the world “the word of God in its fullness.”
 - evangelism- the explanation of the gospel unto salvation through Christ
 - discipleship- “admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom” (28)
- Present the “mystery”- Colossians 2:17; Romans 11:25; Ephesians 3:1-11
 - Gentile inclusion in the family of God
 - “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (27)
- We proclaim HIM!
 - Strategy- warning and teaching
 - Audience- everyone!
 - Goal- “present everyone fully mature in Christ” (Ephesians 4:12-15)
- Gods power provides the “energy” to accomplish the mission (29)