

## The Goal of Ministry – Part 1 (Colossians 1:24-25)

1. *I rejoice in my \_\_\_\_\_ ...for your sake* (2 Cor. 11:23-29)
  - *Now* ⇒ Paul's current \_\_\_\_\_ in Rome
  - Part of God's plan for Paul (Acts 9:15-16)
2. *I do \_\_\_\_\_ in my flesh ...on behalf of the \_\_\_\_\_*
  - *Filling up what is \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ's afflictions*  
Was Paul saying that Christ's suffering was *insufficient* to save?
    - 1) *No* – see vv. 13-23
    - 2) Gk. word for *afflictions* never used of \_\_\_\_\_ suffering
    - 3) By union w/Christ, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ when His \_\_\_\_\_ suffers
    - 4) Paul had a calling to \_\_\_\_\_ as apostle to the \_\_\_\_\_
3. *I was made a \_\_\_\_\_ ...for the stewardship* – Gk. *diakonos*
  - *Stewardship* – Paul given a specific sphere of \_\_\_\_\_  
*By whom?* \_\_\_\_\_ *For whom?* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Why?* \_\_\_\_\_  
*What?* Proclaim fully the \_\_\_\_\_

### Big Ideas

1. The life of Paul is a \_\_\_\_\_ life
  - Serving the \_\_\_\_\_ – how I know I'm a true \_\_\_\_\_
  - Serving \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor. 5:14-15; Phil. 3:7-8; Mk. 8:34)
  - Serving the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 20:24)
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ – as Paul sees it
  - It is \_\_\_\_\_
  - It includes \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 9:15-16; 2 Tim. 3:12)  
*How / why* can I \_\_\_\_\_ in suffering?
    - 1) The promise of \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt. 5:10-12)
    - 2) The sense of \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Pet. 5:9)
    - 3) Identification and \_\_\_\_\_ w/Jesus (Jn. 15; Phil. 3:10)
    - 4) It produces godly \_\_\_\_\_ in us (Rom. 5:3-5)
    - 5) By \_\_\_\_\_ (Heb. 11:35-40)

## Discussion Questions: Colossians 1:24-25

1. What, to your mind, is the connection between our passage today and the prior passage – in particular vv. 9-23?
2. Come up with three *specific* ways you can serve Christ that **are distinct from** serving believers in the church and serving the lost.
3. Share an example of a time when God enabled you to rejoice in affliction or suffering. Can you explain what it was that brought you to the point of rejoicing?
4. What is *one thing* you definitely want to take away with you from today's message?

How do you plan to *follow through* on that *one thing*?