

Saturday & Sunday, September 30 & October 1, 2017 - "Diving Into the Mystery"- Gerald Coleman

Key Passages: Colossians 1:24-2:5

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- We all want to be spiritual, there are a lot of "spiritual" things that are leaving people feeling empty
- Colossians gives us the truth about spirituality
- Colossians 1:24-2:5
  - We see Paul's heart coming through
  - Paul is an apostle and a foundation layer (He didn't plant this church but it was a young church in the faith).
- Paul's mission statement is in v28
  - Desire to see them come into maturity in Christ
  - The example of Gerald's wife feeling him like a baby (not in maturity)
- Greek word for mature is teleios
  - to flourish, to reach your maximum potential
  - To become who you were meant to be
  - Our purpose is to reflect God and be like Him
  - Sin has made us NOT like Him (we miss the mark, actually were aimed in the complete wrong direction)
- Paul says "I want you to know the mystery"
  - Not something unknown BUT something partially know with so much more to be revealed
  - Jesus reveals the fullness of the heart of God
- God wants us to grow up in Jesus
  - God's plan is revealed through Jesus
  - Not content with the basics (Gerald's analogy about inviting you over and asking you to stay in the hallway)
  - Sometimes we stay in the hallway when God has so much more to show/teach/reveal to us
  - He is inviting us to deeper things
- The glory of the mystery is Christ IN US
  - he lives in us
  - the fullness of God in us
  - We are called to dive into the mystery of Jesus in us
- Sometimes we put God on the side but he wants to be the main dish
- 2 types of wisdom: the world and the wisdom and knowledge of God
  - The wisdom from above makes us look like Jesus
  - called to maturity in Christ TOGETHER as the church
  - A body of believers that people would see and say "they have been with Jesus"

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What are some ways that the world presents to people to be "spiritual"?
2. What do you think it looks like to be mature in Christ?
3. Give an example of a time when God called you into "deeper" things? How did you respond? What did you learn?
4. How do you struggle to make God and the mystery of Jesus the "main dish" in your life?
5. How is God calling you to be a part of coming into maturity TOGETHER with the church?
6. What do you think about when you think about the glory of the mystery being Christ in us? How does it make you feel? How does it affect the way you think about your life and ministry?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or message?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: John 6 Tues: John 7 Wed: John 8 Thurs: John 9 Fri: John 10

**\*\*5 Minutes Reading/5 Minutes Writing/5 Minutes Praying**