

SERMON NOTES

Preacher: Kevin Hardy

Date: July 7, 2024

Text: Colossians 1:24-29

Title: Him We Proclaim

Big Idea: Christians must proclaim Christ, in the power of Christ, so they may present everyone mature in Christ.



I. MAKE THE WORD KNOWN (v. 24-28)

- The picture of ministry that Paul gives us here is that of service.
- Who does Paul serve? *"his body, that is, the church."* (v. 24-25)
- How then does he serve them?
 - "according to the stewardship from God" (v. 25)
 - "to make the word of God fully known"! (v. 25)
- Paul tells us in verse 28 how he does this, by...
 - Proclaiming Christ!...
 - "warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom"
- The mystery that Paul is talking about:
 - That God loves us and came to rescue us in Jesus! (v. 26-27)
- "He foresaw my every fall, my every sin, my every backsliding; yet, nevertheless fixed His heart upon me." – A.W. Pink
- As a Christian – YOU are called to share this message with the world around YOU – making the word of God known.

II. MAKE MATURE DISCIPLES (v. 28-29)

- We are not made right before a holy God by the things we do. But we do need to PROCLAIM actual words about Jesus!
- Our aim as given to us by Jesus, is to make disciples. (Matt. 28)
- "Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you." – Augustine
- Our work in proclaiming Christ to the world around us is a twofold work:
 - warning everyone (negative)
 - teaching everyone with all wisdom (positive)
- All with the goal that we may present EVERYONE mature in Christ.
- You and I need to recognize that our goal, our aim needs to be the growth of the gospel IN PEOPLE!

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

To be used for personal reflection and/or sermon-based small group discussion.

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READ Colossians 1:24-29

Is there anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question you would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord?

Where is Christ in this passage? How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character or work of Christ? Luke 24:44 says all of Scripture is about Christ. So, how does this passage help you see more of who Christ is, what He has done, or allows you to love Him more?

Who does Paul serve? (v. 24-25)

How does he serve them? (v. 25-28)

What is the goal of this service? (v. 28)

How does Paul describe his work? What is Paul's role? What part does God play? (v. 29)

What is Paul's attitude to suffering, and what can you learn from it?

Do you have to be in full-time ministry to do what Paul is saying here or is this for all Christians?

Consider ways that this passage should point to something in your lives that needs to change, in light of the truth about God and the gospel from what you have read here.

PRAY

