



**Calvary Chapel South Bay
Men's Ministry 2018 – 19**

“Putting Christ First”

Session 5

November 6, 2018

“The glorious mystery”

In the Bible, a mystery is something that was previously not understood but is now revealed. There are many promises and statements about the believer that are hard to imagine or understand; like the fact that we are **“*holy, and blameless, and above reproach*”** in God’s sight (1:22). When we examine our walks and see so many times when we don’t act holy or blameless or above reproach, it is hard for us to grasp that God could see us that way. Paul now explains how this can be through the revelation of another glorious mystery; that is, **“*Christ in you.*”** How can we conceive of this amazing One, this preeminent One described in Chapter 1 actually living on the inside of us?! So great is this revelation that Paul accepts the **“*stewardship from God*”** and any suffering that comes with it, to warn and teach every man this truth, and what it means to them. We can be seen by God as holy, blameless and above reproach, as **“*perfect*”** (complete), because the truly holy and perfect One lives inside us. Once again, we see that all depends on Jesus Christ. How rich is the glory that He allows us to partake of His life!

Passage: Colossians 1:24-29

Personal Study Time Questions:

Scripture: Colossians 1:24

What is Paul so willing to suffer for the sake of?

Scripture: Colossians 1:25-26

Why has Paul been given this ministry to the body of Christ? What did that ministry involve doing according to verse 26?

Scripture: Colossians 1:27; Romans 8:10, 11

What is the **“mystery”** that Paul now reveals? How does Paul describe this mystery? What do we gain by this according to Romans 8?

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 6:17

Christ is not just **“in”** us; we are **“joined”** (glued to; cemented) to Him. What does Paul say is true of those who are **“joined to the Lord”**?

Scripture: Colossians 1:28

What is Paul doing when he preaches **“Christ in you”**, and to what end?

Personal meditation time with Jesus:

We can experience all the glory of Jesus Christ in our lives because He dwells in us. Spend some time meditating on what it means to you that Jesus didn't just forgive you of your sins, but that He came to live inside of you. What does it say about the level of intimacy that is possible with God because Christ is in you? What does it say to you that He orchestrated all this because He **wants** to have that level of intimacy with you? What can you do on your part to experience in a greater way all that is intended by Christ being in you?

Hide God's Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):

“To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

Colossians 1:27