Ministry in Him

Colossians 1:24-2:5

1. Begin meditating on Colossians 1:24-2:5. Read through the passage and list as many observations as you can find. What verses, repeated words, phrases and key points stand out to you?

2. What suffering did Paul experience during his ministry? (See 2 Corinthians 11:23-33,) What are some ways Christians around the world suffer for Jesus today? Have you ever suffered physically, mentally, emotionally, and/or spiritually during ministry?

3. According to the Colossians passage, how did God use Paul's suffering to impact the church? How has your suffering in ministry impacted others or yourself?

4. What are the goals of ministry? (See also Eph. 4:11-15.) In what ministry are you currently serving?

5. How does Paul describe ministry in this passage? Who is the power behind ministry? (See also John 16:8-15.)

6. What is the mystery, and why is it referred to as a mystery? (See also Romans 10:12-13; 16:25-26.)

7. What does the world tell us about riches/wealth? What are true riches? (See also Matt. 6:19-21; Eph. 1:7; 1:18; 2:7; 3:16; Rom. 2:4; 11:33; Rev. 3:14-22.)

8. How do we avoid being deceived? (See Acts 17:10-11; Rom. 16:17-19; Eph. 4:20-24; 2 Pet. 2:1-3.)

9. Reread Colossians 1:24-2:5. What does this passage teach you about God? What did you learn about ministry in Christ? How will you apply these truths to your own life?