

Colossians 1:25-27



Conversation Starters:

- **What is something in your life right now where “the struggle is real”?**
- **When life gets difficult, what is your natural response- discouragement, perseverance, or something else?**
- **Have you ever seen God use a difficult season for something good?**

Scripture passage: Colossians 1:24-2:5; 2 Corinthians 4:7-10; James 1:2-4

Observation 1- The Struggle is Real, But God Has Purpose in it.

Scripture- Colossians 1:24; 2 Corinthians 4:7-10; James 1:2-4

Questions: a) Why do you think Paul could rejoice while suffering? **b)** What is a struggle you have experienced that later produced growth? **c)** How does knowing there is purpose in suffering change your perspective?

Statement: Paul rejoices in his suffering because he understands his purpose in Christ. Struggles are unavoidable, but God uses them to grow our faith and fulfill His purpose.

Observation 2- The Mystery Revealed- The Gospel is for Everyone and Christ is in You.

Scripture: Colossians 1:25-27

Questions: a) Why is it important that the gospel is for everyone? **b)** Have you ever struggled with feeling “left out” or unqualified spiritually? **c)** What does it practically look like for Christ to live in you daily?

Statement: The “mystery” once hidden is now revealed: salvation is for all and Christ lives in believers. Through Jesus, everyone is invited in, and His presence within us changes everything.

Observation 3- We Have Hope for Tomorrow.

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Scripture: Colossians 1:27

Questions: a) How is biblical hope different from wishful thinking? **b)** What helps you hold onto hope during difficult times? **c)** How does eternal perspective change how you handle present struggles?

Statement: Our hope is not temporary optimism, but a confident expectation rooted in God's goodness and eternity. Even in hardship, we live in confident hope because God is good and our future is secure in Him.

Observation 4- We Are Called to Contend for Others.

Scripture: Colossians 1:28-29; Colossians 2:1-5.

Questions: a) Who in your life are you currently “contending” for spiritually? **b)** What does it look like to actively invest in someone's faith? **c)** What is one practical step you can take this week to reach someone?

Statement: Paul labored and struggled for the spiritual growth of others and we are called to do the same. Following Jesus means actively investing in others' faith through prayer, love and intentional effort.

Final thoughts: The struggle in life is real- but so is the power of the gospel. Because of Jesus our struggles have purpose. The Gospel is for everyone and Christ dwells in all believers. We have unshakable faith and we are called to help others find Jesus. When we put Jesus over everything, we can endure anything and live with purpose.

Prayer:

- Thank God that we are never alone and that Jesus lives in us and gives us strength.
- Pray that God will help us to trust Him in our struggles and see them through His perspective.
- Pray that God will give us boldness to share Jesus with others and to show us who we should spiritually invest in.
- Take prayer requests & pray together.

