

“Focused on Ministry”

The Cosmic Supremacy of Christ

Col. 1:23-27 • pt. 11

INTRODUCTION

- selfless giving
- Paul's selfless giving as a model for every believer

1. *Called to serve* (1:23, 25)

- Paul's pre-conversion priorities
Acts 9:1-2; 26:9-11; 1 Tim. 1:12-13

- Paul's conversion and calling
Acts 9:3-9

- called to be a “minister”

2. *Called to suffer* (1:24)

- promise of suffering
Phil. 1:29-30; 2 Tim. 3:12

- different types of suffering
 - false doctrine of “purgatory”

- understanding “lacking in Christ's afflictions”
Jn. 15:18-21; 2 Cor. 1:5

- joy in suffering
Acts 5:40-41; 1 Pet. 4:14, 16

“No man is fit to preach the gospel seeing the whole world is set against it, save only he who is armed to suffer.”

– John Calvin

3. *Called to a stewardship* (1:25-27)

- a responsibility to speak a specific message: the *mystery*
Rom. 8:9-11; Gal. 2:20

- a responsibility to speak an unwelcome message
Rom. 1:16; 10:14

APPLICATION

✓ Fulfill your _____.

✓ Stand in awe that God _____.