

## **Discussion Questions - 1/21/24**

### A Church Growth Plan - Colossians 1:21-29

Here are three basic questions you can always ask in any bible study:

- What does this text teach us about God?
- What does this text teach us about ourselves?
- If this text is true, what should we do to obey this teaching? This answer ought to be specific, in that it can be clearly measured.

Here are some specific questions about this text:

1. Paul talks about being apart from Christ and now being in Christ (1:21). How does what we are apart from Christ compare to what we are now in him? How does this knowledge promote growth in Christ?
2. Make a list of what you once were apart from Christ compared to what you are in him now (i.e. I used to be ruled by my sinful desires but now I have God's Spirit in me).
3. Vs. 23 characterizes the Christian life as "stable, steadfast and not shifting" from the gospel. What things pull you away from Christ?
4. What are the reasons Paul rejoices in his suffering (Acts 9:16; 2 Cor. 1:5-6; 4:10-12; Phil. 2:16-18).
5. When you think about Christianity revealing a mystery, what first comes to mind? What mystery is being revealed according to Paul (Co. 1:26-27; Eph. 3:6)? Why is this good news for our world, for your workplace, or for your school?
6. How does suffering give us opportunities to advance the name of Christ in your life? How do we endure our troubles while being focused on Christ's glory and ministering to others through the trouble?