

simple.

a study through Colossians

Simple. Ministry Made Simple (Colossians 1:24-2:5)

1. Think of leaders you respect, in any sphere of life, what was/is it about the way they lead that is helpful? What characteristics make a good leader?

Read Colossians 1:24-2:5

2. Share together anything that has confused, challenged, or encouraged you from this passage. How does Paul continue his theme of 'Jesus + nothing = everything'?
3. In v23 Paul refers to himself as a servant of the gospel and in v25 as a servant of the church. What comes to mind when you think of the word servant? What evidence is there of Paul's servant attitude here in this passage?
4. Have a look at Matthew 20:24-28 how is Jesus call to leadership so different from the worlds? Is this possible today? What practical ways can we seek to live and or lead the Jesus way?
5. Spend some time thinking about v27, 'Christ in you, the hope of glory.' What does Paul mean by this? How do we understand and explain this mystery? How does this verse give you hope today and in the future?
6. How would you describe Paul's purpose or goal for the church in Colossae and Laodicea for which he suffers and struggles? 1:28, 2:2. Do you identify with any of these goals for yourself or for us as a church? What helps you to keep disciplined and firm in your faith 2:5?
7. Have a look at 1:29. How do we understand the balance between working hard at serving God and following Jesus and relying on God's power at work in us? See Paul talking of this in Philippians 3:12-14 and 4:13.
8. Spend some time thanking God for revealing the mystery of the gospel, Jesus, to you. Pray for those who have been called to serve God as ministers of the gospel. Please pray for Chris and Kay and leaders in all areas of church life here at CBC.