



Series: Colossians Established in Jesus
Passage Colossians 1:19-25
Title Suffering Well – Life with Meaning
Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 2/10/2019

Discussion Starter

What does a Christian life look like that has suffered well? What areas of suffering might this encompass?

Pleasing to God (Colossians 1:19-20)

- Why do you think that it pleased God that the fullness of the Godhead should dwell in Jesus? What meaning should the word “fullness” convey to us? Why is this so important?
- What is Jesus reconciling us from and for what purpose? Why does this please God? Read 2_Corinthians 5:18-21. Discuss what further insights are gathered from these verses.
- How did Jesus make peace through the blood of His cross?

We were created to live a meaningful life – not an easy life (Colossians 1:21-25)

- What important shift takes place in Colossians 1:21-22 that enables us to live the meaningful life we were created for? How does that work in a practical way as we live out our daily lives?
- How would you define a successful life right now? What would your answer have been at an earlier time in your life? What do you think it might be in ten or twenty years from now?
- What scriptures come to your mind that describe those who do not continue in the faith? What seems to be missing and what is their outcome?
- How was Paul able to rejoice in his sufferings? Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-29. What point was Paul trying to make here? How should this give us insight to apply these principles to world we live in today?
- What message was Paul conveying in his statement in verse 24, “and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ”? Read John 15:18-25. Discuss what additional insights these verses give to the afflictions of Christ that are still lacking and how they apply to us as Christians.
- Bringing a dark world into the Light and Lordship of Jesus requires a willingness to endure affliction. What are some of the afflictions you have endured when stepping out in faith to bring the Light and Lordship of Jesus Christ into the dark world around you?
- Do you think you can live a godly life and not suffer persecution? Why or why not? What is the purpose for this persecution? Read 1 Peter 4:12-14, Philippians 3:10, Romans 5:3-4 and 2 Timothy 3:12. Discuss the additional insights we learn about suffering from these verses?
- Jesus gave us the great commission not the great comfort. Why was Paul not discouraged by the sufferings and persecutions he faced? What is more dangerous for us as Christians today than persecution and why?