

**Colossians: Christ Supreme**  
**"The Purpose of The Church"**  
**Colossians 1:24-29 - 7/22/18**

*What is the church supposed to be about?*

One of the great benefits of the Bible is that it's a very practical book - especially as it relates to the function of the church.

**Colossians 1:24-29**

1) It's About Doing Our Share, Because It's Lacking **\*Vs.24**

Even in Paul's day the church was apparently lacking true service. Yet notice his perspective: "*I rejoice in my sufferings, for your sake*".

We see here that we bear both the *responsibility* and the *privilege*, of suffering to serve.

*"Every church is filled with willing people... Some willing to work and others, willing to let them."* But the later miss out on the blessing.

Where do you see things lacking in our church?... There are *many* ways we need to fill-up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions in our church.

**Colossians 1:25**

2) We're To Fully Carry-Out The Preaching Of God's Word, As It's A Benefit

**Psalm 119:105 - Romans 10:17 - Hebrews 4:12 - 2 Timothy 3:16+17**

God wants to use His word to meet with us and help mold us, in Christ-likeness.

The preaching and teaching of God's Word is what helps to make a church healthy versus unhealthy - and so it's paramount in the life of the church.

God's word can guide us through uncertain and difficult circumstances; we simply must trust it over our feelings and our own wisdom, as well as over contrary advice that others may give us.

**Colossians 1:26+27**

3) We See That We're To Revel In Our Manifested Mystery

In Paul's day there was a pervasive sense of spiritual lethargy and despair.

This same Jesus, Who was hidden from past ages and generations but has now been manifested to His saints in the most remarkable, supernatural and glorious way - "Christ in you - the *hope of glory*"!

"*Christ in you*", is also about the Spirit's power being infused in you.

To be 'filled' with the Holy Spirit means that we allow Him to occupy & control *every area* of our lives... How much of you does He have?

If we 'walk in the Spirit', the world would know us *by* our walk - as the manifested mystery of Christ in you, works itself out.

**Colossians 1:28+29**

4) We're To Equip, To Make Complete

Our goal is to present every man, woman and child, complete in Christ. This is why our Purpose Statement is, "*To develop fully committed followers of Christ for God's glory and kingdom.*" It's *why* we focus on discipleship, outreach, missions and evangelism.

**\*Vs.29**

**Matthew 9:36-38**

Will you join us in this greatest of ventures and adventures?... To equip and make complete - as we join Jesus in what He's already doing!