



Talking through the message during the week helps turn what God is saying into action steps.

Read **Colossians 1:9-14**

This is Paul's prayer for the Colossians.

- Are you praying this way for people at and connected to OCC?

Read **Colossians 1:15-23**

- How have you reflected on the fact that Jesus reconciled you to the Father and that now you are an agent of reconciliation in your broken relationships and in this broken world?

Read **Colossians 1:24-29**

- What words or phrases stand out to you? What don't you understand or what makes you go "huh"?
- Dallas Willard wrote: "Discipleship is the process of becoming what Jesus would be if he were you." How do you respond to that statement? When other look at you, what characteristics of Jesus do they see? Or to put it another way: how are you reflecting Jesus?

We will get to **v24** "suffering" and "fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions" next week.

- Why do you think Paul says "[I] present to you the word of God in its fullness"?
- In what sense(s) do we sometimes only present a partial gospel?
- What is the mystery that Paul talks about? Why is this a mystery?
- What does it mean for Paul to say "Christ in you, the hope of glory"?
- What is this "hope" that is the focus of Paul's letter?
- Why do we sometimes reduce this "hope" to something less than this?
- Read Jesus's prayer in **John 17**. How does his prayer link to what Paul says here in **Colossians 1**?
- In **v28** Paul talks about "present[ing] everyone fully mature in Christ"? What has he said earlier, in this chapter, about being mature? How mature are you?

Next Steps:

Be reading the Gospel accounts during Lent [orange sheet]. This week we are reading **Mark 15-16** then on to **Luke 19-21**

- Pray **Colossians 1:9-14** for OCCer's and beyond this week
- What nudges did you sense this week from God? If you didn't, why do you think that was? If you did, how did you respond to them?
- How will you be consciously aware this week that Christ is in you?