

30-June-2024 | Discussion Questions
God's Community at work – Col. 1:24-29 | Tony Foo

1. Look at verse 24. Why does Paul rejoice in his sufferings? How can suffering be a source of joy for a believer? What perspective would we need to rejoice like him when we face trials and tribulations?
2. Paul mentions he is “**filling up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions**”? How can Christ’s afflictions be lacking? What is the correct understanding of this in the context of Christ’s finished work on the cross?
3. In verse 25, Paul says that God is the Source of his ministry. He was made a minister and steward of God’s word. (see Acts 9:15-16; 26:15-18). Does every believer have his/her own calling? What is your calling and how are you fulfilling it? Please share.
4. Verses 26-27 speak of the “mystery” that was hidden for ages but is now revealed. Why is this mystery “**Christ in us, the hope of glory,**” so precious and significant? How does knowing it help us better appreciate God’s salvation plan and transform our way of thinking and conduct as believers?

5. In verses 28-29, Paul states his ultimate goal is to present everyone perfect/mature in Christ. How does he propose to achieve this? How can Paul's missional blueprint guide and influence our approach to evangelism and discipleship today?
6. Paul talks about "**toiling and struggling**" with all the energy Christ powerfully works within him. What does this reveal about the source of strength for Christian ministry (see Phil. 4:13)? How can we apply this in our own lives, especially when we are facing hardships and discouragement?

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. How can your church community/care group better support one another in understanding and living out the truths found in this passage? Are there new things you can try?
2. In what ways can you be more involved in proclaiming Christ and teaching others with wisdom in your community or sphere of influence?