

With the Master and Nothing Else!—Questions to Consider—Lesson 7—Colossians 1:24-29—The Call and Cost to Ministry

1. (a) Read Colossians chapter one, especially noting verses 24-29. What do you think is the “mystery” that Paul mentions? (b) What things do you observe about this mystery?

2. Memorize Colossians 1:28.

3. (a) What are Paul’s motives for being in the ministry, according to Colossians 1:24-29? (b) What other things was Paul willing to endure for the sake of others, according to 2 Corinthians 4:8-15; 6:1-10; 11:23-28; and 1 Thessalonians 2. (c) Why do you think some are not willing to labor to the point of exhaustion for the brethren? (e) How can we change that?

4. (a) What was prophesied in Isaiah 49:6? (b) When was this fulfilled? See Acts 10. (c) Who was told to take the gospel to the Gentiles? (d) How was he told? (e) What happened after this, according to the rest of Acts 10? (f) According to Romans 15:9, how should we as Gentiles respond to this amazing truth?

5. (a) Paul says in Colossians 1:28 that in his preaching, he warns and he teaches. Why do you think both are important? (b) Read over Colossians and make two columns. In one column list the verses where Paul is warning the Colossian believers, and in the other column list the verses where he is teaching them.

6. (a) According to the following verses, what are some of the reasons that Christians suffer? John 15:18-21; 2 Corinthians 1:3-7; 2 Corinthians 4:8-11; Philippians 3:10; 2 Timothy 1:8; 2 Timothy 2:9-10. (b) How does this personally help you face present sufferings?

7. What does it mean to you personally that “Christ is in you”?

8. (a) In what ways have you seen the Lord working mightily in your life, especially in the past year? (b) What things have happened in your life that can only be explained because of Christ working in you?

9. How could you be more effective in what God has called you to do? Please write your need in the form of a prayer request.