



**CHRIST - CENTERED
MINISTRY**

Colossians 1:24-2:5

2 Timothy 3:12

“...Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution...”

Luke 9:23

“And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.”

Easter Series

March 1	Christ: Broken to Reconcile	Col. 1:21-23
March 8	Grasping the Mind of Christ	Phil. 2:5-11
March 15	The Suffering Servant's Success	Isaiah 52:13-53:3
March 22	The Servant's Vicarious Suffering	Isaiah 53:4-6
March 29	The Servant's Silent Suffering	Isaiah 53:7-9
April 3	It is not death to die	1 Cor. 15
April 5	The Suffering Servant's Satisfaction	Isaiah 53:10-12



**CHRIST - CENTERED
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Colossians 1:24-2:5

Christ – centered Ministry

▪ Colossians 1:24-2:5

Fulfill your responsibility of Christ-centered Ministry

Christ – centered Ministry

▪ Colossians 1:25

Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation (stewardship/ responsibility) of God which is given to me for you, ...

Christ – centered Ministry

1. Mandate: Fill the gap – represent Christ

Col. 1:24

Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

Christ – centered Ministry

1. Mandate: Fill the gap – represent Christ

Col. 1:24

Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind (*gap*) of the **afflictions (tribulations) of Christ** in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

Christ – centered Ministry

1. Mandate: Fill the gap – represent Christ

Phil. 2: 30

Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack (*gap*) of service toward me.

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Christ – centered Ministry

1. Mandate: Fill the gap – represent Christ

Phil. 1:27-29

Only let your conversation (lifestyle) be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; ...

Christ – centered Ministry

1. Mandate: Fill the gap – represent Christ

Phil. 1:27-29

...And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition (destruction), but to you of salvation, and that of God. For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

Christ – centered Ministry

1. Mandate: Fill the gap – represent Christ

Question: Would you suffer the opposition of representing Christ?

Christ – centered Ministry

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Question: Would you suffer the opposition of representing Christ?

Answer: Christ suffered to die for me. He continues to bear afflictions through me as I represent Him.

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Christ – centered Ministry

Fulfill your responsibility of Christ-centered Ministry

1. Mandate: Fill the gap – represent Christ

2. Message: Purposefully – speak of Christ

Christ – centered Ministry

2. Message: Purposefully - speak of Christ

Col. 1:25-28

to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim...

Christ – centered Ministry

2. Message: Purposefully - speak of Christ

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Christ – centered Ministry

2. Message: Purposefully - speak of Christ

▪ Rom. 11:25-26 (ESV)

Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers:

a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved,

Christ – centered Ministry

2. Message: Purposefully - speak of Christ

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Christ – centered Ministry

2. Message: Purposefully - speak of Christ

▪ Col. 1:28

warning **every** man, and teaching **every** man in all wisdom; that we may present **every man** perfect (complete / mature) in Christ Jesus.

Every man

▪ Col. 2:1

For I would that ye knew what great conflict (struggle) I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;...

Christ – centered Ministry

2. Message: Purposefully - speak of Christ

▪ Col. 1:28

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Christ – centered Ministry

2. Message: Purposefully - speak of Christ

▪ Col. 2:2-4

...That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words.

Context: Self-Centered Perceptions of Spirituality

2:8 Traditionalism / Legalism
- rites and rituals

2:18 Experientialism / Mysticism
- worship of angels

2:20-22 Asceticism
- self-denial

Christ – centered Ministry

Fulfill your responsibility of Christ-centered Ministry

1. Mandate: Fill the gap – represent Christ
2. Message: Purposefully – speak of Christ
3. Method: Work intensely – strength of Christ

Christ – centered Ministry

3. Method: Work intensely – strength of Christ

▪ Col. 1:29

Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Christ – centered Ministry

3. Method: Work intensely – strength of Christ

- Col. 2:1

For I would that ye knew what great conflict (struggle) I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;...

Christ – centered Ministry

3. Method: Work intensely – strength of Christ

Our responsibility to bring to maturity in Christ

- Begins with family, extends to church family
- To everyone else that God brings in our network...

Christ – centered Ministry

3. Method: Work intensely – strength of Christ

- Col. 1:29

Whereunto I also labour, striving according to His working, which worketh in me mightily.

= *Struggling according to His energy, which energizes me in power.*

Introducing... the Incomparable CHRIST!

- Theme of the epistle to the Colossians (& tri-city churches)
- Live the new life completely IN the incomparable Christ

Christ – centered Ministry

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**CHRIST - CENTERED
MINISTRY**

Colossians 1:24-25

Christ – centered series

Apr 12 Christ-centered Ministry
Apr 19 Christ-centered Freedom
Apr 26 Christ-centered Focus
May 3 Christ-centered Change
May 17 Christ-centered Relationships
May 31 Christ-centered Living in a Post-modern world