

Week of December 7: Colossians 1:15-29

CHRIST IN YOU



Observation

1. Read Colossians 1:15-29. What stands out to you in this passage?

2. What questions come to mind? Is anything hard to understand?

Observation: What does it say?

1. What do you notice about the text? Things to look for:

- repeating words and phrases
- Answers to the questions: who, what, when, where and how?
- contrasts and comparisons
- similes and metaphors (images used in the text)
- cause and effect relationships
- details regarding: time, geography, place, people, action in the text
- grammar
- larger themes in the passage
- key words and themes

2. What questions do you have?

Interpretation

1. What do you think it means for Paul to be a *servant of the gospel* (verses 23 and 25)?
2. Paul talks about a mystery in verse 26 and 27. How would you define the word mystery?
What is the mystery that Paul is talking about, and how might it be similar or different from how we usually understand this word? (See [Romans 16:25-27](#), [Ephesians 6:19](#), [1 Tim 3:16](#) and [Revelation 10:7](#)).
3. What do you think *Christ in you* means in this passage (verse 27)?

Interpretation

The goal here is to answer questions raised by the text and to get at the central message of the passage itself.

What did the text mean for the original audience?

How might you summarize the central point of the passage?

Application

1. What does being a servant of the gospel mean for us today?
2. What is the good news for us from this passage?

Suggestions for Prayer

Take time to share any takeaways you have from the passage and discussion today. Pray for each other that God would help you to live this out.

Take time to pray for your neighbours and your neighbourhood.