
Digging Deeper and Rising Higher

Read through Colossians 1. How many different ways does Paul use to show the magnificence of Jesus Christ?

Take some time to think deeply about the “purpose” of your life. How does the fact that God has rescued you in Christ Jesus affect that purpose? How does it ignite your commitment? Your passion?

Some Thoughts to Take With You

There is no such thing as genuine knowledge of God that does not show itself in obedience to His Word and will. The person who wants to know God but who has no heart to obey Him will never enter the sacred courts where God reveals Himself to the soul of man. God does not give divine knowledge to those who have no desire to glorify Him.

Sinclair Ferguson

Nothing is small or great in God’s sight; whatever He wills becomes great to us, however trifling, and if once the voice of conscience tells us that He requires anything of us, we have no right to measure its importance.

J. N. Grou

Let no man deceive you with vain words or vain hopes or false notions of a slight and sudden repentance. As if heaven were a hospital founded on purpose to receive all sick and maimed persons that, when they can live no longer to the lusts of the flesh and the sinful pleasures of this world, can but put up a cold and formal petition to be admitted there. No, no, as sure as God is true, they shall never see the Kingdom of God who, instead of seeking it in the first place, make it their last refuge and retreat.

John Tillotson

Our Purpose, Our Privilege, Our Passion, Part One

Colossians 1:28, 29

Introduction: As we start a new ministry year, it is always important to remember the basics of who we are and what we are trying to accomplish. For years we have found Colossians 1:28 to be a helpful summary of our mission. During September, we will take time to remind ourselves of the grand privilege that is ours as fellow-laborers with Christ in the building of complete people, to the glory of God.

Paul’s Paradigm

Colossians 1:28, 29

His task, His purpose, His passion

Dedication to a noble purpose will ignite a righteous passion capable of turning duty into privilege.

Our Purpose: Present people complete in Christ

Colossians 1:28

The glory of Christ is always our primary value

Authentic relationship with Christ is our daily commitment

Modeling Christ in our world is our daily challenge

Calling others to the joy of following Christ is our daily privilege

Our Privilege: We proclaim Him

Colossians 1:12-27

Because Jesus solves our unsolvable problems (13-15)

Because Jesus has the power to fix our brokenness (16,17)

Because Jesus brings us back into eternal friendship with God (18-23)

Because Jesus is available to all, and we get to tell them (24-27)

Our Passion: For this purpose I labor

Colossians 1:29

Understanding God’s purpose for us

Igniting our passion for God

So, what do we do with all this?

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