

September 12, 2021



**"BECAUSE OF THE MESSAGE"**

John Greene, *Senior Pastor*

## **COLOSSIANS 1:24-29 (ESV)**

**TRUTH:** Seeing "the rabbit" creates endurance to keep at it when others fade away.

**THE PURPOSE OF THIS SERIES:** That more and more will see the rabbit that motivated 1st Generation leaders to live sacrificial lives as a way of life.

**INSIGHT:** Colossians is a firsthand account of the heart of a 1st Generation leader for a lost world.

**I. JOY COMES IN SUFFERING WHEN THE CAUSE IS WORTH IT.** "Now I REJOICE in my SUFFERINGS for you..."

**INSIGHT:** Joyful sacrifice is giving up something you love for something you love more.

**INSIGHT:** The reality is that we won't get debt-free on this building without sacrificing something we love for the souls of children that we say we love more.

**REMEMBER:** Joyful sacrifice is giving up something you love for something you love even more.

**II. COMPLETE WHAT IS LACKING OF CHRIST'S SUFFERING (v. 24).**

**INSIGHT:** The saving work of Christ isn't complete until it's a message told.

**TRUTH:** Life in the world only comes through death in the Church.

**III. OUR INCREDIBLE DEBT TO THE WORLD (v. 25)**

**INSIGHT:** Lostness in the world requires something of us. While there are a lot of worthwhile causes for believers, don't overlook the greatest kind of suffering—eternal suffering.

**IV. DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST (v. 28).**

Three probing questions for you and your family to answer:

1. Where and how are you filling up Christ's afflictions? Do you show in your family life the marks of sacrifice? *Has your giving affected your lifestyle?*

2. Are you fulfilling YOUR commission? Why did God give you the earning potential you have? Why do you have the talents you have? Are you genuinely listening to God?

3. What will be your sacrificial commitment to pay off the Children's Building over the next 3 years?