

GUARDRAILS
Understanding How To Think As A Christian
Pastor Keith McKnight

Key Verses of the Day

Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people.

To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me. Colossians 1:24-29 NIV

We ask: what do we need to know from this text to follow Christ, to be an instructed Christian?

v.24, "Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church."

Grab This!

Following Christ will be painful at times.

_____ is the word Paul used. The Greek word is "pathos." It means that which befalls a person and must be accepted.

The understanding about _____ v.24.25, "for the sake of his body, which is the church I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness"

The church is an _____ of people who have been called out from something

v.25, "I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness."

This is the _____ job description.

A _____ is a special assignment, something a person is required to do.

"Present to you the word of God" means _____ the word of God

God has chosen preaching as the way for the church to _____ in its faith

vs.26-27, the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but now disclosed to the saints. To them God has chosen to make known the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

The church must understand that it has been initiated into a _____.

The secret hidden from "ages and generations" means the period of the Old Testament

The mystery is now revealed in the present age to be _____

Christ is someone _____ us, (work of redemption) but He is also someone _____ us (indwelling)

The phrase, "Christ in you the hope of glory," points to _____ of earthly life

V.28, "We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me."

The subject of his preaching is Christ.

All good Christian preaching _____ and _____

Admonish is to encourage action, urge response, advise, counsel, and demand
Teach is to instruct, inform, and explain

V.29 "To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me."

Greek word labor means to work _____ at something

Greek word powerfully means to empower something from an outside source.

Summarize

1. Being a Christian is hard
2. The church is very important
3. God commissions men to preach his word
4. What was once a mystery is now revealed to the church (Christ)
5. Christ is glorious riches, full of promise and hope
6. Christ is to be proclaimed as our hope of glory
7. The ministry requires hard work and special empowering