

## A PICTURE OF FAITHFUL MINISTRY

### Colossians 1:24-29

Personal ministry is not about always knowing what to say. It is not about fixing everything in sight that is broken. Personal ministry is about connecting people with Christ so that they are able to think as he would have them think, desire what he says is best, and do what he calls them to do even if their circumstances never get "fixed." It involves exposing hurt, lost, and confused people to God's glory, so that they give up their pursuit of their own glory and live for his.

- Paul David Tripp

#### 1. Colossians 1:24-25 **The Minister's Perspective**

- The attitude toward suffering

- The identification in suffering

- The stewardship of suffering

## 2. Colossians 1:25-27 **The Minister's Priority**

- The mystery of the gospel

- The hope of the gospel

## 3. Colossians 1:28-29 **The Minister's Practice**

- Ministry and proclamation

- Ministry and preparation

- Ministry and presentation

### I. Getting to Know You

1. What motivates you to work hard?

### II. Into the Bible

2. Colossians 1:28 is very clear that there are no second-class Christians. Paul and his associates are working to “present everyone fully mature in Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-16 extends the responsibility to use gifts to bring Christians to maturity, first to gifted leaders (11-13) and then to the entire body (16). List some of the marks of Christian maturity found in the Ephesians passage?

3. Romans 12:1-8 talks about ministry of the different kinds of gifts. What are often called leadership gifts are mixed in with other gifts like service, giving and mercy. Don't be misled by the section break that your bible probably has between verses 8 and 9. The new section is linked to the earlier one in Paul's mind. What are some additional marks of maturity that you find in this passage?

### III. Application

4. Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? How did you learn about them?

5. Are you using those gifts to build up your brothers and sisters here at Chapel City Church? What can you do to use them more effectively?