

Text: Colossians 1:24-2:5

Topics: Christ, Church, Joy, Labor, Suffering

Series: Colossians: Knowing the All-Sufficient One

Monroe Bible Church

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## An Old "Church Growth" Model

The church is built through the labors and sufferings of its people. (1:24-25, 29; 2:1)

The church is built through a growing knowledge of "Christ in me" in its people. (1:26-28; 2:2, 5)

A growing church is the believer's joy! (1:24; 2:5)

"How can I help?"

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. How would you describe a successful church? How would you have described a successful church one, five, or ten years ago?

2. How does Paul describe his ministry in Ephesians 3:1-7, 13?

How does he describe the church's ministry in Ephesians 4:11-16?

How does your ministry fit this model? If you were to "refocus," what would that look like?

3. How would you explain what Galatians 2:20 means to a new believer?

What would you tell them to do to apply this to their life?

How do, or can, you apply this to your own life?

4. What did the apostle John say was his greatest joy? (3 John 1:3-4)  
What do you think John heard these believers were doing?

List some of your greatest joys in life.

How is Jesus part of these joys?

5. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?