



A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month:	Extreme Discipleship: Living into Our Mission
Text for the Week:	Colossians 1:24-29
Message for the Week:	The Disciples Mission
Theme for the Week:	Disciples proclaim Christ

Week 4

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

What is the best trip you have been on?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read [Colossians 1:24-29](#) out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

In these verses, Paul talks about being a servant of the gospel. What does it mean to be a servant? What does it mean to be a servant of the gospel?

If you had to share the gospel using your own personal experience, what would you say?

How is your participation in the commission of the gospel (that is...presenting the word of God in its fullness [Colossian 1:25]...) impacting your life?

In what ways have you suffered for the gospel? Which of the five 5 examples of suffering for the gospel that Pastor Doug gave in he message do you resonate with the most?

1. Giving up 'free time' for ministry.
2. Confronting someone who promotes something lacking in wisdom.
3. Responding graciously to someone who criticizes you.
4. Watching someone you have invested in and prayed for wander away from God while it tears you up inside.
5. Seeing the Church being torn apart by a contentious spirit or gossiping tongue.

"Try It!"

Read through the book of Colossians once a week during this series. Consider using different translations.

Memorize Colossians 3:17:

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you.

Lord, Jesus, thank you for making your home in us. You are an amazing mystery, a powerful presence, and a hopeful Truth. We can do all things through Christ! Use our suffering to build your Church, use our lips to proclaim your Gospel, use your power to transform our world, use your Spirit to guide us home. In the name of the exalted Christ, Amen.

Missional/Spiritual Practice for the Month: Praying for Others

During the month of September, pray every day for five (one for every finger on your hand) of your neighbors and five of your coworkers/classmates by name. Pray each day for them that...

- God would fill them with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives
- They might live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way
- They might grow in the knowledge of God and be strengthened by the Holy Spirit