

## **Colossians 1:24-2:5 – Week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

### **Home group / Study notes: A Costly mission**

Sunday Lessons – Luke 4:22-30 Colossians 1:24-2:5

**Discuss** Is there a difference between 'Mission', 'Purpose' and 'Goal' ?  
Are there any other words that helpfully describe what is meant here?

**Read** **Luke 4:22-30**  
Do you sometimes feel more able to talk freely about your faith when amongst strangers?  
If so why is this?  
Is this an excuse not to be open about our faith with our family and friends?  
What is the personal cost of sharing our beliefs amongst a) strangers; b) family/friends?

**Read** Colossians 1:24-29

**Discuss** Paul was commissioned by God. Do you feel commissioned?  
Paul says he was a servant. Do you feel that you are a servant of God? Is this an easier concept than that of being commissioned?

What is the mystery that had been kept hidden?  
Is mystery something to shy away from or to celebrate?  
Does something have to be complicated to be a mystery?  
Are you confident in proclaiming the mystery of God?  
Is the mystery of God simple or complicated?  
Does your knowledge of Christ make you wiser than those who don't know him?

**Read** Colossians 2: 1-5

**Discuss** In Col 1:24 Paul mentioned suffering, in Col 2:1 that he was struggling, is this an inevitable consequence of being a servant of God?

What might have been Paul's suffering and why was he struggling?

Paul makes a clear statement of his purpose. How would you make your personal statement of your purpose in life? Is it aligned with God's will?  
Does it conflict with your personal desires? If so, how can we encourage each other?

What do you need to give up to be more focused on your commission from God?

**Read** Colossians 2: 6-7

**Discuss** What does 'living in Christ' really mean?  
Does this help answer any of the questions above?