



Sunday 21st May 2017

No Greater Hope: Struggling with Strength
(Colossians 1:24 - 2:5)

1:24 “I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking...”

v.25, 26 – ‘the mystery’

v.27 – ‘among the Gentiles’

1. CHRIST

2. In You!

3. The Hope of Glory

v.28 - 'Admonishing' to 'present everyone perfect'

v.29 'I labour, struggling...'

2:1 'I want you know how much I am struggling'

2:2,3 – ‘encouraged in heart and united in love’

2:4 – ‘that no-one may deceive you’ – you’re not superman!

2:5 – Delighted to see your faith.

Conversation starter:

Is it a bad thing to let people see your weaknesses?



Growth Group Questions

No Greater Hope: Struggling with Strength (Colossians 1:24 - 2:5)

You will find it helpful to have heard the talk so why not listen at:
<http://leightonbaptists.org.uk/media-links/current-teaching/>

Some of these questions are personal and others are more general. Feel free to pick and choose which questions your group will find most helpful.

Opener – What picture comes to mind when you try to imagine the Apostle Paul?

1. Why do you think Paul was so willing to suffer for the gospel? v.24
2. Read verses 25-27. Why might the gospel be considered a ‘mystery’?
3. What do you understand by the phrase ‘Christ in you, the hope of glory’?
4. Is it hard to believe that Christ is in you? Where do you normally picture him? In heaven, at your side, in church?
5. Do you feel as if God is at work in your life? Is the image of Jesus being like a builder that moves in and starts making radical changes helpful or scary?
6. Do you feel you are making progress towards being presented perfect in Christ? v.28
7. Read v.29 and 2:1. Why do people find it hard to admit they are struggling?
8. Read Hebrews 2:10,11. What do these verses have to say about suffering? How might they help someone who is struggling?
9. How might being part of a church give us a better understanding of the gospel than, for example, just listening to services online? v.2-5

Take some time to pray for each other and perhaps point out where you have ‘seen’ signs of ‘firm faith’ in each other’s lives. v.5