

Week Four: The Mystery of God**OPENING:**

- Describe a time when you had to work really hard to achieve something. What was your motivation to keep going? How did it feel to finally complete the task and receive the accomplishment?
- Look back at chapter one of Colossians and note the main points.
- Read Colossians 2:1-7.

STUDY:

- How do Paul's words in verse one continue his thoughts from the previous chapter?
- What do you think it means for him to "contend" for the churches in Colossae and Laodicea? Why does he do it?
- What is the mystery of God and what is the value of knowing it?
- How are wisdom and knowledge "treasures" (in general and for you personally)?
- We see one of Paul's concern for these churches in verse 4. What kind of "fine sounding arguments" exist today that can threaten God's people? How about you personally?
- How do verses 5-7 help give a road map to protect against these fine sounding arguments? What discipline might you need to engage in to help you be more rooted in Christ in this season?
- The word "mystery" has been mentioned three times so far in the book of Colossians. In what ways has your growth and faith in Christ been a mystery to you? Are there ways in which knowing Christ has grounded you despite the mysterious nature of faith?

PRAY:

- Together in prayer, invite the Holy Spirit to mysteriously fill you as a group and grow you into "all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" of Christ, overflowing with thankfulness!

Colossians 2:1-7

I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. 2 My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. 4 I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. 5 For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is.

Spiritual Fullness in Christ

6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.