

SERMON OUTLINE Colossians 1:24-29

The Heart and Marks of a Well-Stewarded Ministry

FOLLOW MY EXAMPLE

Paul's Command (1 Corinthians 11:1)

Paul's Friends (1:28)

THE HEART OF A WELL-STEWARDED MINISTRY

Key Terms

Key Verses

THE MARKS OF A WELL-STEWARDED MINISTRY

Well-Stewarded Ministry Makes the Word of God Fully Known (25, 28)

Well-Stewarded Ministry Is About Revealing the Mystery of Christ (26-27)

Well-Stewarded Ministry Works Hard in God's Power (29)

Well-Stewarded Ministry Means Rejoicing Hardship (24)

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

This morning we're going to consider the heart and marks of a well-stewarded local ministry. To be even more specific, I'm going to make the case that this passage is a charge to all of us (to all Christians) to make it our life's chief ambition to bring the glorious riches of the gospel to bear on everyone we meet. That's the big idea and the main takeaway.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What is your chief ambition? How does that affect your life? How would you summarize Paul's answer to those questions?
3. How would you define a well-stewarded ministry? On a scale of 1-10, is your life aimed at having a well-stewarded ministry?
4. In talking with others, are you more likely to leave off some of what God's Word says or say more about your own thinking?
5. Have you warned anyone about the judgment of God in the past month? Have you taught anyone about God's Word?
6. How quickly do you get to Jesus in your conversations? How central is He to the discussions you have with those who do not treasure Him and with those who do? Do you have stories ready to share about His kindness, grace, mercy, and blessing in your life? Do you have His promises ready to share that you are clinging to and finding joy in?
7. Is your life characterized by working hard? Are you working hard primarily to treasure Jesus and share Him with others? As you work, are you continually conscious of the fact that it is God who is enabling you to do so? Do you regularly experience God's energy working powerfully in you?
8. When is the last time you experienced some level of hardship for doing ministry? Does it happen often? Why/not?
9. Have you ever truly rejoiced in the hardships that have come for doing ministry? Does it happen often? Why/not?
10. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

11. In your quiet times this week, focus on communion with God, not merely the discipline of Bible reading and prayer.
12. Spend some time thinking carefully through what it would look like to make a well-stewarded ministry your chief ambition.
13. Identify and take one practical step towards growing in your understanding of God's Word and your ability to share it.
14. Share the riches of the glory of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the hope of glory, with someone this week.
15. Identify one aspect of your God-given ministry that you need to work harder on and one way to do so (and prayerfully do it).
16. Find someone at Grace Church to commit to helping you grow in ministry and rejoice in the hardships that come from it.
17. Ask someone to tell you one thing they got from this sermon and one way to pray for them in light of it.
18. Pick one specific thing you mean to do differently, with the Spirit's help, as a result of the things you heard in this text/sermon.

PRAYER POINTS

19. Adoration. Praise God that He is perfectly efficient, good, powerful, and loving. Praise God that He is entirely sufficient. Praise God that He is gracious and kind. Praise God that He is personal. Praise God that He is glorious beyond measure. Praise God that He is perfect and complete.
20. Confession. Confess any selfish ambition, laziness, and fear that keeps you from ministry. Confess any embarrassment or shame that has kept you from ministry. Confess any impatience or other treasures that have kept you from ministry.
21. Thanksgiving. Thank God for the riches of His grace in your life, the hope of glory in Jesus. Thank God for refining you through ministry-induced suffering. Thank God for using you in His redeeming work. Thank God for Christ in you!
22. Supplication. Ask God to increasingly make it our ambition to call the people in our lives to treasure Jesus above all along with us. Ask God to fill us with the hope of glory. Ask God to allow us to rejoice in our sufferings and gospel ministry.