Small Group Discussion Guide

"Everything" (pt. 1) - 03.08.2015

Scripture: Colossians 1:24-2:5

Bottom Line: Remember and Rejoice in the midst of your suffering.

INTRODUCTION:

The definition of rejoice means to feel or show great joy or delight. Go around the room and have everyone in your group share a specific moment or event from their life when they greatly rejoiced over something.

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE: Read Colossians 1:24-29

Paul tells us to rejoice not only in good times but also in our suffering. It's very easy to rejoice in, "good things," but no one enjoys suffering.

1) How can Paul rejoice and persevere while in his suffering?

- He knows God has a sovereign plan that his suffering won't stop.
- God will not waste his suffering, but work it into His perfect plan.
- Knows a day is coming when all suffering will end for those in Christ.
- He has the limitless power of God in him.

2) Knowing all of this, how can you rejoice in your own suffering?

Read Colossians 2:1-5

In the midst of suffering Paul REMEMBERS and REJOICES.

1) What, "good news," prompted Paul to REMEMBER and REJOICE?

- God had a sovereign plan, and was in control. Eternal Glory and the end of suffering awaited him.

- God would use his suffering.
- The same power that raised Jesus was in him.
- He was not alone and the church helped carry him.

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

1) Paul remembered and rejoiced at the, "good news," given to him by Jesus. The same is available for all Christians! How will this truth help you in the midst of your suffering?

2) How could your Small Group help each other through suffering?