STUDY GUIDE: KNOWING JESUS

"The Mystery" (Colossians 1:24-29)

Discussion Starters

1. On a scale of 1-10 (low to high), how much do you like mysteries? Why?

2. What is your favorite mystery story? Why?

Study: Read Colossians 1:24-29 in preparation for the following questions.

3. To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

Define the following words or terms.

--"sufferings" (Colossians 1:24)-

--"church" (Colossians 1:24)-

--"afflictions" (Colossians 1:24)-

--"minister" (Colossians 1:25)—

--"stewardship" (Colossians 1:25)-

--"mystery" (Colossians 1:26)—

--"saints" (Colossians 1:26)-

--"admonishing" (Colossians 1:28)-

--"complete" (Colossians 1:28)-

4. Choose one of the words you looked up above, and write how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

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- 5. What is "the word of God" (v. 25)?
- 6. What is the mystery of the gospel (v. 26)?
- 7. What is the goal of this mystery?

8. How is "striving according to His power (v. 29)" different than doing something on our own?

Taking It Home (You won't be able to answer these questions without first answering the questions above.)

- 9. Do you know the mystery of the gospel? Please explain.
- 10. Why do you think God works through mystery?
- 11. What needs to happen for you to be "complete" in Christ?