"God's power in the Church"

Colossians 1:25–29

God's word, preached through God's power, grow God's people in Christ.

I. God appoints certain individual to bring the knowledge of God to His churches.

A. What two words does Paul use to describe himself to serve the church?

Colossians 1:25–27 — "²⁵ Of this church I was made a **minister** according to the **stewardship** from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God.

- 1. "______" [diakonos] 1 one who executes the commands of a master; a servant, attendant, minister. 1A the servant of a king. 1B <u>a deacon, one who, by virtue of the office</u> <u>assigned to him by the church, cares for the poor and has charge of and distributes the money</u> <u>collected for their use.</u>
- 2. "_____" [oikonomos] means the management of a household or of household affairs. 1a specifically, the management, oversight, administration, of other's property.
 - a. What is another way every Christian is a steward for God? 1 Peter 4:10 _____

B. How does Paul describe his message of God to the Churches?

v**26** "that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints, ²⁷ to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this **mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you**, the hope of glory."

1. It is a "_____" – which is has never been revealed before.

2. It is a mystery that involved what group of people?

3. How would the Christ one day relate to these people?

II. What four verbs does Paul use to describe what we should be experiencing in our church?

Colossians 1:28 — "²⁸ We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ."

A. Jesus should be ______ in the Church. 1 John 2:1–3 — "... And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ² and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world. ³ By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments."

B. We should be _____ by the word.

- This is the kind of teaching that warns one away from harm or dangers of the soul.
 -1 John 2:1–3 "¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.
- C. We should be _____ how to live like Jesus.
- D. We should be presented as ______ in faith and practice before God.
 - 1. How close are you to being complete in Christ?

III. By whose power should every believer be serving Lord in the church?

Colossians 1:29 — "²⁹ For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me."