



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: **Colossians – Declaring the Mystery of Christ**
Guest Speaker: **Jason Gaboury – Preacher, Author, InterVarsity National Director**
Scriptures: **Colossians 4:1-4**

4 Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

Further Instructions

² Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³ And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday, we will be in week 6 of our series through the book of Colossians. Guest Speaker and New Lifer, Jason Gaboury will be preaching from Chapter 4:2-6. He'll focus on the mystery of Christ as the fuel of our Christian life. This sermon will help us understand how our prayer and Christian practice reveal the beauty and wonder of Jesus.

Sermon Questions:

1. How would you answer the question "What's the point of being a Christian?"
2. Jason mentioned that prayer is to our life with God what breathing is to our physical life. What adjective would you use to describe your prayer life? Is it sustaining your life or something that is more of a duty or something else?
3. In this passage, Paul gives three practical answers for how we are to live a life resting in the supremacy and sufficiency of Jesus. Take time to discuss each of these - what could each of these look like? How would practicing these make a difference in your life, the relationships you are part of, in the world? Which do you sense God's invitation to lean into?
 - a. Grow in God's love through prayer** - we need to pray just as we need to breathe, to be filled with the love of God; not "try harder" but be open to God's love all around.
 - b. Show God's love through practice** - Paul is telling us to walk in wisdom (literal translation of v. 5 Conduct yourselves wisely) *together*. We need one another to have wisdom as we walk a complex world in which we face demands and strains. As we each walk to show God's love and walk together, we show wisdom beyond our individual self.
 - c. Know God's love in Jesus** - the purpose of growing in and showing God's love is to know God's love. The mystery of Christ is that Jesus is the image of the invisible God who has done everything to make it possible for each of us to know God's love.
4. How is your life with God? Is it marked more by striving or receiving and resting from God? There is no right answer. Share honestly where you are and any prayer requests you have.

5. As you close, it may be meaningful to take time to pray together the Modeh Ani prayer that was shared:

I thank you, ever living God.

You have restored my soul, my breath to me in mercy.

Great is Your faithfulness.