

SACRIFICIALLY SERVING CHRIST'S CHURCH

Colossians 1:21-29; page 954

Point: We must sacrificially serve the church as Jesus did.

- I. Christ sacrificed himself on the cross for the church so we would grow in holiness (1:21-23).
 - A. We were helplessly alienated from God, but Christ died to reconcile us to God (21-22a).
 - B. Christ's ultimate purpose for believers is to present us holy in God's sight (22b).
 - C. If we focus on God's grace, we will mature and serve the cause of the gospel (23; 1:28-29).
- II. We are called to sacrificially serve Christ by serving His church – helping others mature (1:18-20).
 - A. Paul willingly suffered for the church because Jesus did (24).
 - B. Paul was privileged to reveal the glorious “new thing” of the Jew/Gentile church of Jesus Christ (25-27).
 - C. Paul worked extremely hard with God's strength to urge believers to grow up spiritually (28-29).