

# Every One

## Colossians 1:28-2:3

# Sermon Discussion

### The Study

The verses covered in this message range over several topics. They include the focus of Paul's ministry, his "target audience," what he sought to accomplish, his methodology, prayer, and his commitment to his calling as an Apostle.

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#### V. 28

Paul continues from vs. 23-27, sharing his personal focus and motivation in his calling as an Apostle. He centered his entire work on Jesus, *warning* people about neglecting so great a salvation, *teaching* those who responded in faith, aiming to *make them* "disciples who make disciples."

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#### V. 29

Paul poured himself body & soul into the work God called him to & discovered as he did that God "energized" him.

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### Chapter 2

#### Vs. 1-3

Paul tells the Colossians how fervently he was praying for them and what it was he prayed.

### The Discussion

Because of the number of subjects touched on in these five verses, your choice of which to focus on with your group is wide.

What follows is a bit different from the usual "Sermon Discussion" we've done. It's an INDUCTIVE STUDY, a *close examination* of the text itself.

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#### V. 28

Who is the "Him" that starts the verse?  
What does Paul mean by "*warning* every man?"  
What did he warn them *of*?  
What did he mean by "*teaching* every man?"  
What did he teach?  
WHY did he warn and teach everyone?  
What does he mean by presenting everyone *perfect* in Christ Jesus?

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#### V. 29

"Labor" = Work to the point of exhaustion  
"Striving" = In Greek, 'agon' from which we get 'agony.' It was the name of the place wrestling was held in Greek Games. An *intense struggle*.  
What do these words suggest about Paul's *attitude* toward the way he went about his calling as an Apostle?

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#### Vs. 1-3

Why does Paul "*want them to know*" he prayed fervently for them?  
What does Paul pray for them?  
Colossians is one of the most theologically important letters of the Bible for what it tells us about Jesus. It was instrumental in the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> centuries in helping the Church Fathers hammer out exactly what the Bible teaches about the Trinity and nature of Jesus. Yet Paul understood prayer was *as important* as apologetics in dealing with the error at that time threatening the churches in Colossae & Laodicea. What do Paul's words in vs. 1-3 teach us about *how to pray* for the lost and for believers being seduced by error?