## "Our Purpose in Christ"

I. We are called to be servants of God (v. 24-25)

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit." (John 15:16)

- A. A servant of God serves His church
- B. A servant of God rejoices when suffering for Christ

"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings." (Philippians 3:10)

- C. A servant of God knows and shares the word of God
- II. We are called to know the mystery of God (v. 26-27)
  - A. It is revealed that Christ will live in us

"Those who obey his commands live in him and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us." (I John 3:24)

B. It is revealed that all believers are one in Christ

"And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment – to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ." (Ephesians 1:9-10)

- C. It is revealed that Christ in us is our hope of future glory
- III. We are called to actively serve God (v. 28-29)
  - A. We proclaim the gospel of Christ

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us." (2 Corinthians 5:20)

- B. We warn about the <u>result of sin</u>
- C. We teach the word of God
- D. We help others mature in their faith

"Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity." (Hebrews 6:1)

E. We work hard as we trust in Christ's strength

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us." (Ephesians 3:20)

- IV. We are called to grow in our faith together (v. 1-5)
  - A. To experience spiritual encouragement

"And let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25)

B. To have unity based on the love of Christ

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another." (John 13:35)

- C. To fully understand all Christ has done for us
- D. To have a growing <u>relationship with Christ</u>
- E. To find the knowledge we need in Christ
- F. To keep from being deceived by <u>false teaching</u>
- G. To remain solid in our <u>faith in Christ</u>