

“Knit Together”

Colossians 2:1-5

The Orchard (All Church) – 7/20/25

1. Paul speaks of a "great struggle", an intense contest or wrestling for these churches he hasn't seen. How does Paul's Struggle for the Colossians differentiate from a mere emotional burden or a casual concern? What does this tell us about the stakes of sound doctrine and spiritual formation?
2. Paul prays that their "hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ." In what precise ways does true encouragement and genuine love amongst believers foster a deeper, more assured grasp of theological truth? On the other hand, how might a lack of these hinder such understanding?
3. What is significant about Paul explicitly identifying "God's mystery" as "Christ"? How does this Christ-centric revelation distinguish Christian knowledge from other systems of thought, whether ancient philosophies or contemporary worldviews?
4. "In whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." If all true wisdom and knowledge are found in Christ, what does this imply about the supposed wisdom offered by alternative spiritualities or intellectual pursuits that operate outside of Him?
5. Paul warns against being "deluded" (to mislead by false reasoning) by "plausible arguments." Why are "plausible" arguments often more dangerous than overtly false ones? What makes an argument "plausible" yet ultimately deceptive in the spiritual context? How can we cultivate the discernment necessary to identify them?
6. Paul rejoices in their "good order" and the "firmness of your faith in Christ." Can one truly exist and thrive without the other, especially in times of spiritual attack?

7. Paul says, "though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit." What is the nature of this "spiritual presence"? How does it emphasize the unity of believers across distance and time, and the powerful, unseen reality of the communion of saints, empowered by the Holy Spirit?
8. Given Paul's fervent desire and intellectual defense, how does Colossians 2:1-5 challenge us today to contend earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints?