

Colossians Week 2: Awe

Discussion Guide

Discuss:

- What is your favorite mystery? It could be a story, a movie, or an actual perplexing event or phenomenon in real life or history. [5 min]
- How does our suffering fulfill Jesus' suffering? [Colossians 1:24–25](#), see also [Romans 5:3–5](#); [Philippians 3:10–11](#); and [James 1:2–4](#) [5 min]
- What is the mystery of Christ? Why is it a mystery and how is it revealed? [Colossians 1:26–2:5](#); How does this compare to [Ephesians 3:3–9](#)? [5 min]
- How is a person transformed by Jesus? [Colossians 2:6–15](#) [5 min]

Challenge:

What are some of the philosophies of the day that draw us away from Jesus or some of the traditions of religion that keep us from seeing Jesus clearly? [10 min]

Scriptures:

- **Colossians 1:26** (ESV) “The mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints.”
- **Romans 5:3–5** (ESV) “More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”

- **Philippians 3:10–11** (ESV) “... that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.”
- **James 1:2–4** (ESV) “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”
- **Ephesians 3:3–6** (ESV) “... how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”
- **Ephesians 5:32** (ESV) “This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.”
- **Ephesians 6:19** (ESV) “Pray also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel.”
- **Colossians 4:3** (ESV) “At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison.”
- **1 Timothy 3:9** (ESV) “They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.”
- **1 Timothy 3:16** (ESV) “Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the

world, taken up in glory.”

Prayer:

Take prayer requests for people’s concerns.