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Our mission at Riverside is “that they would become disciples”. The follower of Jesus is called to be on mission, and that mission is not an easy one.

We cannot fulfill God’s calling on our lives exclusively through natural means. It’s a supernatural calling requiring supernatural power.

**Supernatural:** attributed to some force beyond scientific understanding or the laws of nature.

The follower of Jesus has access to supernatural power living on the inside of them.

**Main Text: Colossians 1:24-29**

### 1. The Call to Suffer for Christ

Colossians 1:24 (NLT) - I am glad when I suffer for you in my body, for I am participating in the sufferings of Christ that continue for his body, the church.

God is not calling you to be miserable but is calling you to be on mission.

Romans 15:13 (NLT) - I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

### 2. The Call to Serve for Christ

Colossians 1:25-27 (NLT) - God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his entire message to you. <sup>26</sup>This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God’s people. <sup>27</sup>For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.

Romans 8:18 (NLT) - Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.

1 Peter 4:13 (NLT) - Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world.

### 3. The Call to Spiritual Maturity Through Christ

Colossians 1:28-29 (NLT) - So we tell others about Christ, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all the wisdom God has given us. We want to present them to God, perfect in their relationship to Christ. <sup>29</sup>That’s why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ’s mighty power that works within me.

The more we grow in our relationship with Jesus, the more spiritually mature we become.

Ephesians 3:20 (NLT) - Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

## Study Guide

### 1. Surrender your life to Christ

If you haven’t given your heart to Jesus before, say this prayer of salvation and become a child of God today:  
Dear Heavenly Father, I acknowledge I am a sinner. I have made mistakes and I ask that you would forgive me for all of my sins. I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who died for my sins, and was raised from the dead. I give my heart to you, now and forever. Thank you for your grace. Amen.

### 2. Seek first the Kingdom of Christ

The Word of God (the Bible) is filled with **all wisdom**, teachings, and warnings to help you mature in your faith. Pick a book and read a chapter a day and repeat the process. Pray about what you learn. Ask questions. Talk to God about it, and others in community. Finally, ask God to show you how you can apply what you learn this week.

### 3. Share Christ

Ask God to give you a broken heart for the lost. The people in this world who do not know Jesus on a personal level. Pray and ask God to give you strength to be bold to share the Good News with them, knowing that it will cost you. Be of good cheer when it gets hard. God has overcome the world. You have the hope of glory. God will never fail you.