

Date: February 13, 2022
Series: Vision 2022 – *Building Up the Body of Christ*
Title: *Building Up the Body of Christ: Through Evangelism*
Text: Colossians 1:24–29
Preacher: Kevin Freeman

We conclude our "*Building Up the Body*" series with a sense that we are entering into something new. Perhaps we are re-entering into something old. For this reason, Paul's words in Colossians can fill us with a renewed sense of passion and boldness for our faith in Christ, which is at work powerfully in us and among us!

Colossians 1:24–29 ESV

24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, 25 of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, 26 the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. 27 To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28 Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. 29 For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

How to be an evangelistic "super-spreader"

1.) Rejoice in Sufferings

We are called to share the pain.

What does suffering indicate?

- i. Value
- ii. Passion (synonymous with suffering)
- iii. Hope

How have you displayed your passion for Christ to others?

Who needs to see your tangible faith to make the connection to Christ?

2.) Reveal the Secret

We are called to spill the beans.

Colossians 1:26 ESV

26 the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints.

Evangelism is not separate from discipleship.

Don't view salvation merely as an event in your past.

How often do you join in discussion of your faith among fellow believers?

3.) Recognize the Savior

We are called to spotlight Christ.

How central is Christ in your daily life?

How do others sense Christ through you?

4.) Rely on the Spirit

We are supplied with Christ's energy.

Don't say, "No" for people.

We proclaim with the energy of Christ. His Spirit is at work in us.

Colossians 1:29 ESV

29 For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

Have you forgotten who is at work in you?

What God-sized toiling requires God's energy in you?

How to begin spreading your faith

Ideas to get you started:

- **2022 prayer guide**
Pray for another member of the Body at Redland
Pray that each member of Redland will regularly and boldly share the Good News
Pray and ask God to show you one person today with whom to share the love of Christ
- **Create a prayer list**
- **Get into position**
- **Take a risk**

What other ideas do you have?

How will you put one of these practices into place this week?