

## Colossians - Chapter 2

### “How to Reach Spiritual Maturity”

### Colossians 2:1-2

#### Verse 1

1. The word “*conflict*” is the Greek word from which we get our English word “\_\_\_\_\_.” Have you ever been so concerned about somebody that you agonized in your spirit, and, hopefully, you agonized in prayer for him?
2. Remember, Paul is in prison, and has lost the ability to travel and see people in person.
3. I'm sure that Paul longed to go and teach these new converts, especially when he received word of false teachers trying to prey on these believers.
4. This verse demonstrates how \_\_\_\_\_ all of this was to Paul. He truly agonized in his spirit over people and over his desire to get the truth of the mystery out to others.

#### Verse 2

1. Verse 2 gives us great insight into Paul's heart and passion for local churches. This verse reveals how Paul prayed for them and what his deepest desires were for them.
2. His first desire was that “*their hearts might be comforted.*”
  - These Colossians had been hit with every conceivable form of \_\_\_\_\_ doctrine, designed to lead them away from the sufficiency of Christ.
  - Can you imagine the confusion and turmoil in their midst?
  - Paul's desire was that a \_\_\_\_\_ and calmness would characterize their hearts. How could this happen?
3. Paul said, “*...being knit together in love.*”
  - There were so many false religious teachings that infiltrated this church and had brought division.
  - I'm sure it produced bickering, fighting, and contention within the church, just like at Corinth.

- *“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you.”*

**1 Corinthians 1:10-11**

- Paul wanted so much for these people to be knit together (united) in \_\_\_\_\_.
- The key to unity and love is spiritual maturity, which brings us to the next phrase.

4. *“...unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding...”*

- The phrase “full assurance” carries the idea of a “\_\_\_\_\_ confidence.”
- When people truly begin to rightly divide God's Word, and start to put all the pieces of God's Word together in light of Paul's revelation, they become established in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Paul prayed that these believers would gain a spiritual understanding and be brought to maturity.
- What is the key to spiritual maturity? Let's look at the next phrase.

5. *“...to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ.”*

- This is the mystery we discussed in 1:26.
- An understanding of the mystery is absolutely crucial to getting established in \_\_\_\_\_ doctrine and gaining a spiritual understanding.
- So many believers stay in a state of spiritual immaturity. They have never applied themselves to understanding God's Word or the mystery revealed through \_\_\_\_\_.