

**Oxford Baptist Church – Feb 25, 2024 – Robin W. Pifer**  
**Colossians – “Authentic Ministry” – Col 1:24-28**

**Main Thought:**

Authentic Ministry is the Sacrificial hard work of Service so all believers grow mature in Jesus Christ.

**A Ministry of Sacrifice | v24**

- Example of Jesus – Rom 3:25; Heb 10:14, 1John 4:10
- Example of Paul – Rom 12:1; Gal 2:20
- Reason for this sacrifice – Christ’s Body, the Church
- Sacrificial Worship – Heb 13:15
- Sacrificial Service – Heb 13:16
- Spiritual Priesthood – 1Pet 2:5
- *Are you willing to pay a price to minister & obey the Lord?*
- *What sacrifices have you made lately to bless the Body of Christ?*

**A Ministry of Service | v25-27**

- Everyone in Christ is a Minister – Col 1:7; 4:7
- Everyone in Christ is given a Stewardship from God – Mat 28:18-20
- Everyone in Christ is to make known the mystery of the Gospel.
- Everyone in Christ makes known the hope of Glory.
- *Are you a minister for Jesus Christ? Where do you serve?*
- *Are you being a steward of the gifts, talents, treasure, and time that the Lord has given you?*
- *How are you making the Word of God fully known in your place of influence?*
- *Are you bringing the hope of Jesus Christ wherever you go?*

**A Ministry of Growing Maturity | v28**

- What is the proof of Transformation or Reconciliation with Jesus Christ? – Col 1:23
- The Way Forward – Disciples of Jesus Christ.
- We proclaim Him – Jesus Christ.
- Warning and teaching everyone with Wisdom – 2Thes 3:6; 1Cor 10:11
- We may present everyone mature in Christ – Eph 4:13; Heb 5:14; Jam 1:2-8
- We struggle with His energy, powerfully working within us – Gal 6:10
- Knowing the truth about the power of the gospel and the person of Christ is the believer’s best protection against deception.

**Applications**

- Are you maturing in Jesus Christ?
- What evidence in the last few months shows your spiritual growth?
- Is there an area or step of obedience you need to take for greater spiritual growth?
- Are you allowing the power of the Holy Spirit to strengthen you for ministry?