

Paul's Labor for the Church - Colossians 1:24-2:5

Topics

Body, Church, Encouragement, Glory, God, Hope, Jesus Christ, Joy, Serving, Suffering, Teaching, Unity, Wisdom

Open It Questions

1. When was the last time you had a good physical workout?

2. How do you feel after strenuous physical exercise?

Explore It Questions

3. Why did Paul rejoice? (1:24)

4. What did Paul do for the sake of the church? (1:24)

5. What commission did God give Paul? (1:25)

6. To what mystery did Paul refer? (1:26)

7. To whom had God chosen to make known a mystery? (1:27)

8. How did Paul help believers become spiritually mature? (1:28-29)

9. What kind of effort did Paul expend in preaching and teaching?
(1:29)

10. What did Paul want his audience to know? (2:1)

11. What was Paul's stated purpose? (2:2-3)

12. What is hidden in Christ? (2:3)

13. How would a commitment to the full knowledge of Christ protect the Colossians? (2:4)

14. How was Paul unified with the church at Colosse? (2:4)

15. What delighted Paul? (2:5)

Get It Questions

16. Paul had never met the Colossian Christians; how could he have suffered for them?

17. How is suffering an essential part of the Christian life?

18. Why did Paul work so hard for the Colossians?

19. What results did Paul expect from his work for the sake of the gospel?

20. What can you do for the church of Christ?

21. When have you become tired because of your work for the kingdom of God?

22. What makes a church encouraged and united?

23. What "fine-sounding arguments" draw some Christians away from the faith?

24. What can we do to grow in our understanding of Christ?

25. What can you do to grow in your understanding of Christ?

Apply It Questions

26. What kind of "spiritual workout" would increase your stamina for the Christian journey ahead this week?

27. How can you learn more about Christ this week?

Adult Questions for LESSONMaker.

Colossians 1:24-2:5

**“Paul’s Labor for
the Church”**

**WELCOME TO
BIBLE STUDY**



Sick Bereaved

PRAYER

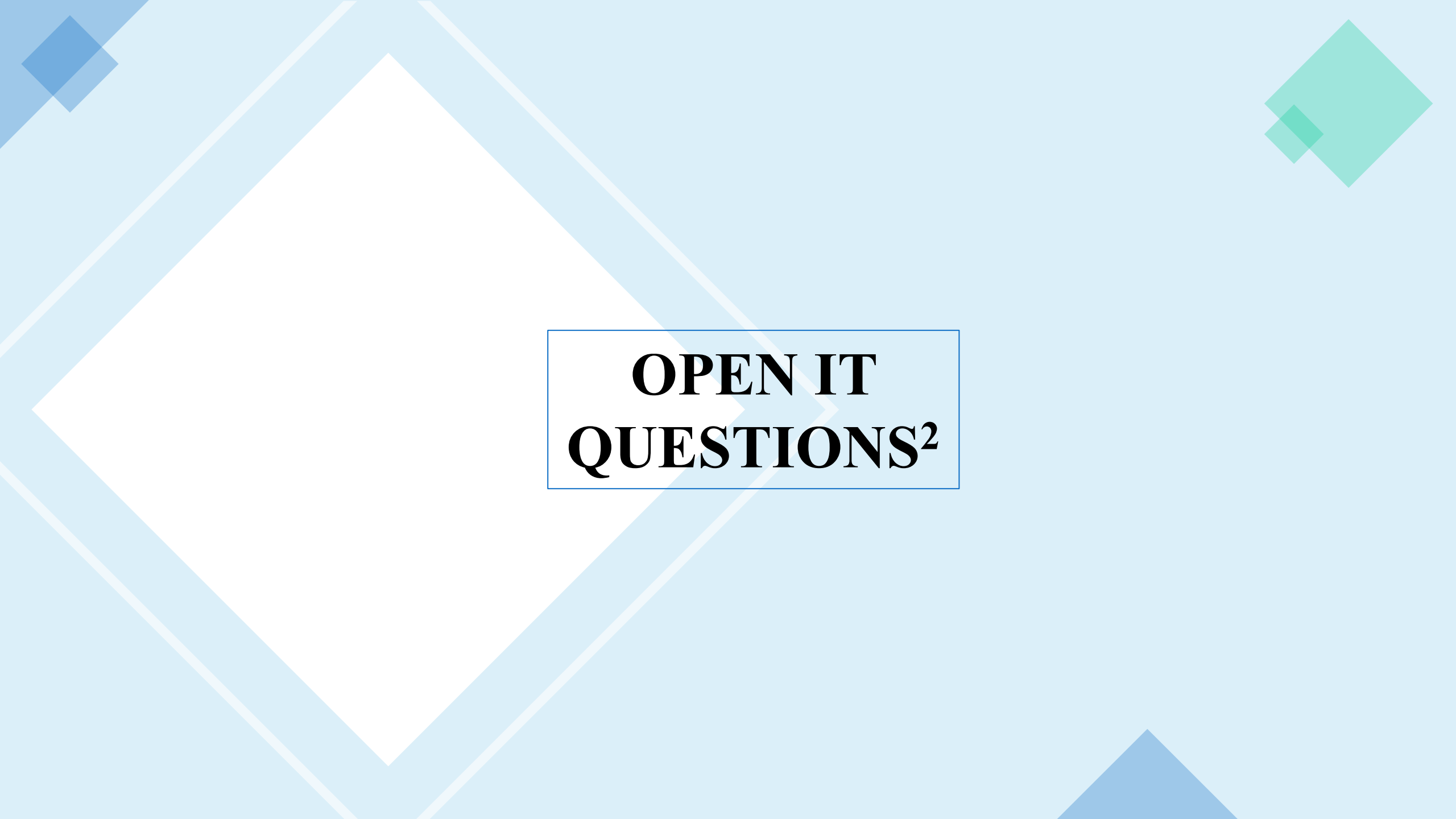




TOPICS

TOPICS

- Body
- Church
- Encouragement
- Glory
- God
- Hope
- Jesus Christ
- Joy
- Serving
- Suffering
- Teaching
- Unity
- Wisdom

The background features a light blue gradient with several geometric shapes. In the top-left corner, there are overlapping blue squares. In the top-right corner, there are overlapping teal squares. A large white diamond shape is centered on the left side, outlined by a thick light blue border. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a thin blue border, centered in the middle of the page.

**OPEN IT
QUESTIONS²**

The background features a light blue color with several overlapping geometric shapes. In the top-left corner, there are two overlapping squares in shades of blue. In the top-right corner, there are two overlapping squares in shades of teal. A large, light blue diamond shape is centered on the page, with a white diamond cutout in the middle. The text 'OPEN IT QUESTIONS' is contained within a white rectangular box with a thin blue border, positioned on the left side of the white diamond cutout.

**OPEN IT
QUESTIONS**

1. When was the last time you had a good physical workout?

**OPEN IT
QUESTIONS**

2. How do you feel after strenuous physical exercise?

The background features a light blue gradient with several geometric shapes. In the top-left corner, there are overlapping blue squares. In the top-right corner, there are overlapping teal squares. A large white diamond shape is centered on the left side of the page. A horizontal white rectangle with a thin blue border is positioned in the center, containing the word "INTRODUCTION".

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Paul was combating a false teaching in the Colossian church similar to Gnosticism (from *gnosis*, the Greek word for knowledge). Though Gnosticism did not become fashionable until the second century, even in Paul's day these ideas sounded attractive to many, and exposure to such teachings could easily seduce a church that did not know Christian doctrine well.

INTRODUCTION

We combat heresy by becoming thoroughly acquainted with God's word through personal study and sound Bible teaching. In this chapter, Paul wanted to help the Colossian believers guard against those who would undermine the simple faith and sufficiency they had found in Christ.



SCRIPTURE
Colossians 1:24-29
Colossians 2:1-5

SCRIPTURE

Colossians

1:24-26

(NLT)

²⁴ 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.

²⁵ God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his entire message to you.

²⁶ This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God's people.

SCRIPTURE
Colossians
1:27-29
(NLT)

²⁷ 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.

²⁸ 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.

²⁹ That's why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within me.

SCRIPTURE
Colossians
2:1-3
(NLT)

2:1 I want you to know how much I have agonized for you and for the church at Laodicea, and for many other believers who have never met me personally.

2:2 I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself.

2:3 In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

SCRIPTURE

Colossians

2:4-5

(NLT)

2:4 I am telling you this so no one will deceive you with well-crafted arguments.

2:5 For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong.



EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

3. Why did Paul rejoice?
(1:24)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

3. Why did Paul rejoice? (1:24)

²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

4. What did Paul do for the sake of the church? (1:24)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

4. What did Paul do for the sake of the church? (1:24)

²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.



**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

5. What commission did
God give Paul? (1:25)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

**5. What commission did God
give Paul? (1:25)**

²⁵ I have become its servant by
the commission God gave me to
present to you the word of
God in its fullness—

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

6. To what mystery did Paul refer? (1:26)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

6. To what mystery did Paul refer? (1:26)

²⁶ ...the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people.

See also Ephesians 3:3, 6-7

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

7. To whom had God chosen to make known a mystery? (1:27)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

7. To whom had God chosen to make known a mystery? (1:27)

²⁷ 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.

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

8. How did Paul help
believers become
spiritually mature?
(1:28-29)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

**8. How did Paul help believers
become spiritually mature?
(1:28-29)**

²⁸ 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.

²⁹ That's why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within me.



**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

9. What kind of effort did Paul expend in preaching and teaching? (1:29)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

**9. What kind of effort did Paul
expend in preaching and teaching?
(1:29)**

²⁹ That's why I work and
struggle so hard, depending
on Christ's mighty power
that works within me.

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

10. What did Paul want his audience to know? (2:1)

10. What did Paul want his audience to know? (2:1)

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

¹I want you to know how much I have agonized for you and for the church at Laodicea, and for many other believers who have never met me personally.

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

11. What was Paul's stated purpose? (2:2-3)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

11. What was Paul's stated purpose? (2:2-3)

² I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself.

³ In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

The background features a light blue gradient with large, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue and teal. A prominent white diamond shape is centered on the left side. In the top-left corner, there are overlapping blue squares. In the top-right corner, there are overlapping teal squares. In the bottom-right corner, there is a blue triangle pointing upwards.

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

12. What is hidden in
Christ? (2:3)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

12. What is hidden in Christ? (2:3)

³ In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

13. How would a
commitment to the full
knowledge of Christ
protect the Colossians?
(2:4)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

13. How would a commitment to the full knowledge of Christ protect the Colossians? (2:4)

⁴ I am telling you this so no one will deceive you with well-crafted arguments.

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

14. How was Paul unified with the church at Colosse? (2:4)

14. How was Paul unified with the church at Colosse? (2:4)

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

⁴ I am telling you this so no one will deceive you with well-crafted arguments.

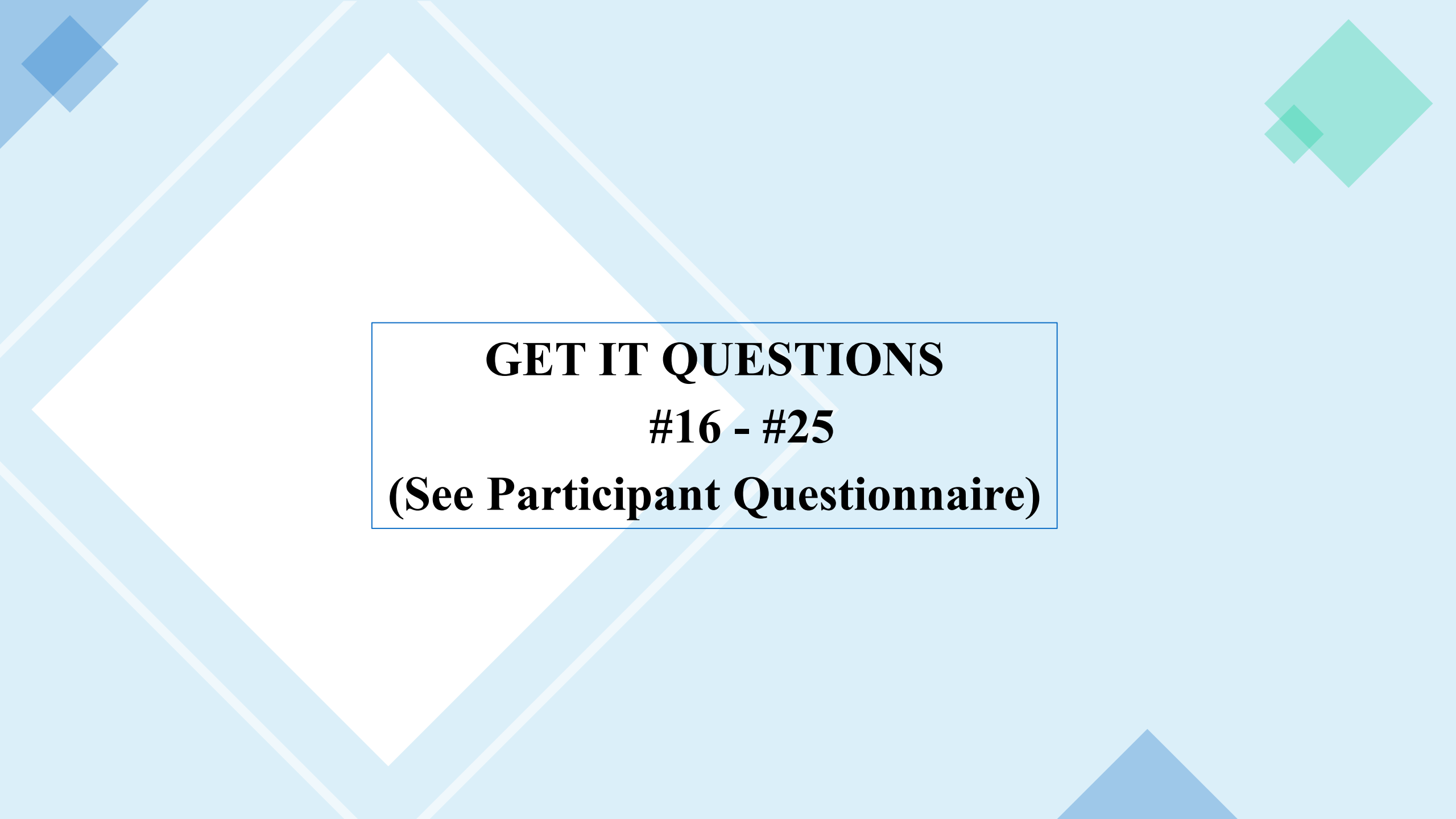
**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

15. What delighted Paul?
(2:5)

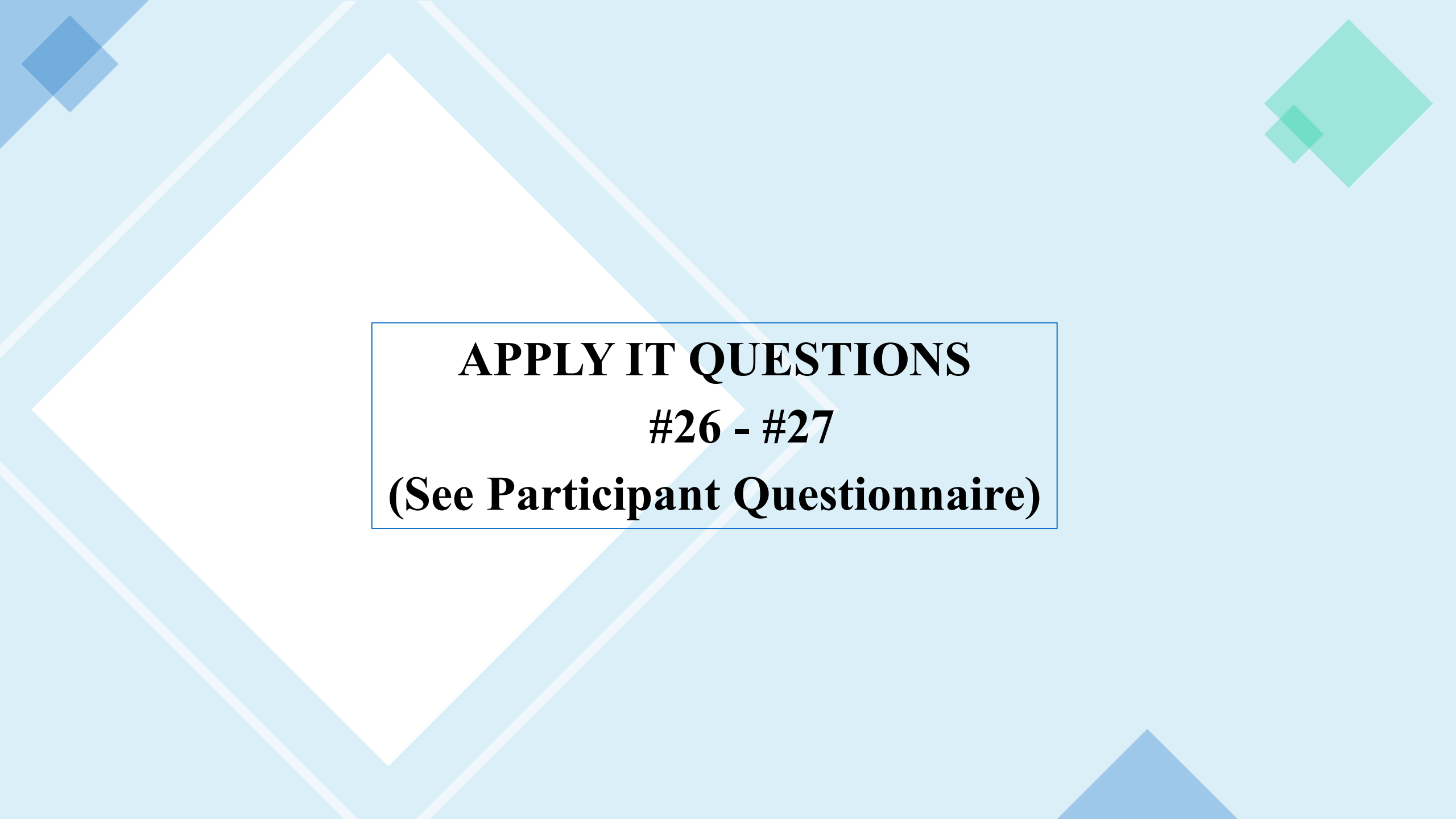
**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

15. What delighted Paul? (2:5)

⁵ For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong.



GET IT QUESTIONS
#16 - #25
(See Participant Questionnaire)



APPLY IT QUESTIONS
#26 - #27
(See Participant Questionnaire)

New Hope Missionary
Baptist Church
Southfield, Michigan

Next Week's
Lesson

*Freedom from Rules
and New Life in Christ*

Colossians 2:6-23