

Two hands are shown from the top, with fingers interlaced to form a heart shape. The skin is a light, natural tone. The background is plain white.

**“HEART FOR MINISTRY”
CHECK UP**

**“It’s Right In Front of You”
Jeff Wall Colossians Part 3**

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, with fingers interlaced to form a heart shape. The hands are light-skinned and the background is plain white.

“HEART FOR MINISTRY” CHECK UP

What does it take to have the ministry impact on other’s lives of an Apostle Paul?

There are 5 questions in this heart check.

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, holding each other in a heart shape. The hands are positioned with the fingers pointing towards the center, creating a heart-like outline. The skin is a light, warm tone, and the background is a soft, out-of-focus white. The lighting is bright and even, highlighting the texture of the skin and the delicate grip of the fingers.

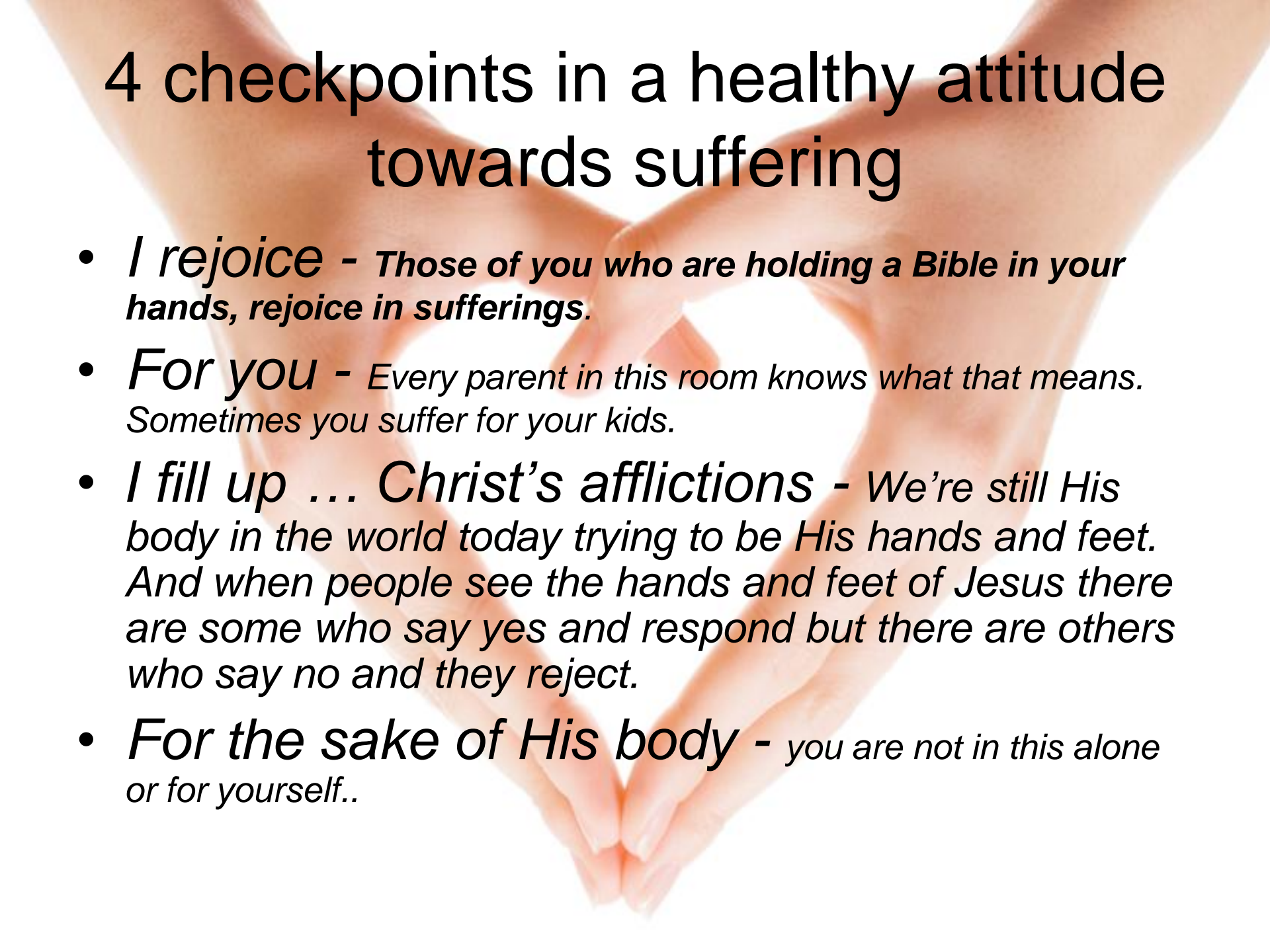
Colossians 1:24

“I rejoice in what I suffered for you and I fill up in my flesh that which is lacking in regards to Christ’s affliction for the sake of His body which is the church.”

A background image showing two hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture, with fingers interlaced and palms facing each other. The hands are positioned at the top and bottom of the frame, framing the text.

1. WHAT IS MY ATTITUDE TOWARDS SUFFERING ?

“(Paul) is My chosen instrument to carry My name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for My name.” Acts 9:15-16 (NIV)



4 checkpoints in a healthy attitude towards suffering

- ***I rejoice*** - *Those of you who are holding a Bible in your hands, rejoice in sufferings.*
- ***For you*** - *Every parent in this room knows what that means. Sometimes you suffer for your kids.*
- ***I fill up ... Christ's afflictions*** - *We're still His body in the world today trying to be His hands and feet. And when people see the hands and feet of Jesus there are some who say yes and respond but there are others who say no and they reject.*
- ***For the sake of His body*** - *you are not in this alone or for yourself..*

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, with fingers interlaced to form a heart shape. The hands are light-skinned and the background is plain white.

“HEART FOR MINISTRY” CHECK UP

Masochists: Insist on suffering

Escapists: Resist all suffering

Realists: Rejoice in suffering

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, holding each other in a heart shape. The hands are positioned with fingers pointing towards the center, creating a heart-like void. The skin is a warm, light brown tone. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white.

Colossians 1:25-27

*“I become it’s servant to present to you the word of God in its fullness, the mystery that’s been hidden for ages and ages. “It was hidden for ages and generations but now it’s disclosed to the saints. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this **mystery** [this discovery]. Christ in you the hope of glory.”*

A background image showing two hands clasped together in a heart shape, with the fingers pointing towards the center. The hands are light-skinned and the background is white.

2. WHAT IS MY REASON FOR SERVING ?

Paul was a servant by God's commission

- **The commission was given by God - God has chosen and called me to do this.**
- **The commission was to reveal a mystery – Who knows the answer? We do.**

**So if our friends don't know the answer how come?
We haven't told them. God has shown us as
believers the answer, the mystery.**

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, holding each other in a supportive grip. The hands are positioned so that the fingers of one hand are wrapped around the back of the other, creating a heart-like shape. The skin is a warm, light brown tone, and the background is a soft, out-of-focus white. The lighting is bright and even, highlighting the texture of the skin and the strength of the grip.

Colossians 1:28-29

*“We **proclaim Him admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. We proclaim Him and admonish and we teach **everyone** with all wisdom so that we may present everyone complete in Christ.”***

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, with fingers interlaced to form a heart shape. The hands are light-skinned and the background is plain white.

3. HOW BIG IS MY VISION FOR PEOPLE?

Operation 10K reaching the Tanana Valley with the gospel of Christ involves YOU!

10k@friendschurch.org

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, with fingers interlaced to form a heart shape. The hands are light-skinned and the background is plain white. The text is overlaid on the image.

Paul's vision is described in two words:

Everyone

Perfect

Isn't it easy for reality to shrink your vision?

One of the reasons God used Paul in such great ways is he held on to this big vision for what God could do in a world.

Heroes of the Faith



A background image showing two hands clasped together in a heart shape, with the fingers pointing towards the center. The hands are light-skinned and the background is white.

Notice 3 ways God expresses His wisdom through us.

- **Proclaim** means “to tell openly”. Let everybody know. Let’s make it clear. There’s a sense of boldness sometimes.
- **Admonish** means “to warn”. It even has the idea to warn gently, lovingly.
- **Teach** means “to show clearly”.
- **Tell openly, Warn gently, Show clearly.**

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, clasped together with fingers pointing downwards. The hands are positioned to form a heart shape. The skin is light-toned, and the background is a plain, light color.

4. **WHAT IS MY SOURCE OF STRENGTH ?**

***“My dear children, for whom I am again
in the pains of childbirth until Christ is
formed in you.” Galatians 4:19 (NIV)***

How do I tap into HIS energy!!

When it's my work...

I use my energy.

When it's HIS work ...

I use HIS energy

Major W. Ian Thomas

Torchbearers International




A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, with fingers interlaced to form a heart shape. The hands are light-skinned and the background is plain white.

Whose work is it?

So the crucial question is NOT ... “How will I get more energy to get more done?”

The crucial question IS ... “

What does God want me to do?”

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, held together in a heart shape. The fingers are curled inward, and the thumbs point towards each other, creating a symmetrical heart outline. The skin is a light, natural tone, and the background is a plain, bright white. The text is overlaid on the center of the hands.

When you get that question settled
you begin to experience the
energy OF Christ
Colossians 2:1-7

A background image showing two hands, palms facing each other, with fingers slightly curled, forming a heart shape. The hands are light-skinned and the background is white.

5. HOW CLEAR IS MY PURPOSE FOR PEOPLE?

The word for struggle is “Agon” from which we get our word “agony.”

QUESTION: How did Paul struggle for those in Colossae and Laodicea since he had never met them prayer ?

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, holding each other in a heart shape. The fingers are interlaced, and the palms are facing each other, creating a clear heart outline. The skin is a light, natural tone. The background is plain white.

Look at the process in Paul's purpose

1. Encouraged in heart and United in love
SO THAT
2. They may have the full riches of complete understanding
IN ORDER THAT
3. They may know Christ

A close-up photograph of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, with fingers interlaced to form a heart shape. The hands are light-skinned and the background is plain white. The text is overlaid on the center of the heart.

apoksruphos

It's not hidden in a book.

It's hidden in Christ.

**Reading the Bible just for itself, as an end in itself is not enough.
There's a next step. There's a reason for reading it.**



Paul clearly wanted people to know
Christ

Paul clearly wanted people to reject deceit
and false teaching

In HIM ... rooted and built up

By FAITH ... strengthened

With THANKSGIVING ... overflowing