

**'Full, Free & Alive' Part THREE**  
**'The Dangers of Distance'**  
**21st June 2020**

**Key Scriptures:** Colossians 1:24-2:5 & Romans 8:14-18

**Summary:** I don't know if its fair to say this, but I've been wondering whether it's true that, that which we keep at a distance or are at a distance from, we are less connected to? This will certainly be true of some things, and relationships may well be one of those things.

Here's the thing, what is true in the natural, is also often true in the spiritual and when it comes to relationships, where there is distance, there is often danger. These verses today speak into the unparalleled invitation of God to come close to Him and to live in continual proximity to Him. I believe this is a call for us to stop admiring from a distance or holding Him at arms length and to receive the invitation in these verses to come closer to Jesus, to put Him in the highest place again - just as Paul does throughout this amazing letter.

On Sunday, we attempted to unpack 3 dangers that spring up out of these verses:

1. Our response/perspective towards **PAIN** & suffering
2. The danger of **PLATEAU**
3. The danger of **PASSIVITY**

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**Questions:**

1. What are your initial reflections from the passage and since you heard Chris' message on Sunday?
2. How do you deal with times of feeling distance in your relationship with God? ***Talk over some practical tools that might help us deal with these times.***
3. How might we cultivate a healthier perspective towards pain and suffering in our lives? How did Paul deal with this issue?
4. Do you resonate with the concept of 'plateau' in your relationship with God? Can God really continue to change and transform us?
5. Take some time to talk over how passivity impacts you and your relationship with God. What would the opposite look like in your life?