

"MENDING A DIVIDED CHURCH"

I Corinthians 1:18-31

I. INTRODUCTION:

A. The blessings of a Gospel focused church plant: vv. 1-9

1. Experiencing the grace of God: v. 4b
2. Enriched in utterance and knowledge: v. 5
3. Confirmed testimony: v. 6
4. Possessed all spiritual gifts: v. 7a
5. Anticipated Christ's return: vv. 7b-9

**The point – you can accomplish more together than you can by yourself.*

B. Divisions, Satan's strategy for "missing the mark": vv. 10-17

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

II. THE "FOOLISH" MESSAGE OF CHRIST AND HIS CROSS:

A. "Foolish" preaching: vv. 18-21

1. The teaching of the cross: vv. 18, 21
 - a.
 - b.
2. Two different perspectives: vv. 8-20
 - a.
 - b.

B. Three responses: vv. 18-20

1. Jews – signs: vv. 22-25
2. Greeks - wisdom: vv. 22-25
3. Corinthian church – grace: v. 26
 - a.
 - b.

C. Humbling meditations: vv. 27-31 (Pro. 13:10a; Phil. 2:1-5) (See back)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A.
- B.
- C.

SINNERS PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, I was made by you and I was made for you, but I have been living for myself. I am sorry for that self-rule you call sin. I believe that Jesus Christ being my creator God, died, was buried, and rose again to pay the insurmountable debt that my sin has created since birth. So right now, I am turning from a life of going my own way, to by faith, place my trust in Jesus Christ, to pay the debt of all my sin, and to get me to heaven, when I breath my last breath. Lord Jesus, from today on, I am yours. Thanks for saving me, this very moment, in Jesus name, amen.

"If we are to live this type of life,
we must be -
Foolish enough to depend upon Christ's wisdom,
Weak enough to be empowered by Christ's strength,
Base enough to have no honor but Christ's honor,
Desperate enough to be kept in the dust of Christ's feet,
Nothing enough for Christ to be everything."

L.E. Maxwell

"One by one He took them from me,
All the things I valued most;
Till I was empty handed,
Every glittering toy was lost.

And I walked earth's highways,
Grieving in my rags and poverty;
Till I heard His voice inviting,
'Lift those empty hands to me'.

I turned my hands toward heaven,
And He filled them with His store;
Of His own transcendent riches,
Till I could contain no more.

At last I comprehended,
With my stupid mind and dull;
That God could not pour His riches,
Into hands already full."

Author Unknown