

THE CROSS


THE CENTREPIECE OF
GOD'S SAVING GRACE

What is the series about?

Through a 7 week series we are going to be exploring the centrepiece of God's saving grace.

- Part 1 - *Where is the lamb?* - Genesis 22
- Part 2 - *God will Passover* - Exodus 12
- Part 3 - *Lamb to the slaughter* - Isaiah 53
- Part 4 - *My God, Why?* - Psalm 22
- Part 5 - *A cross-shaped life* - 1 John 4:7
- Part 6 - *The Lion & the Lamb* - Revelation 5
- Part 7 - *Foolish or powerful?* - 1 Corinthians 1

Listen to the audio

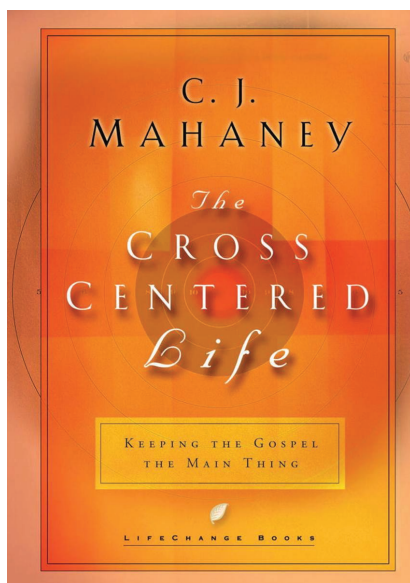
On the King's Norwich app or at:
kingsnorwich.com/thecross

Check out the blog

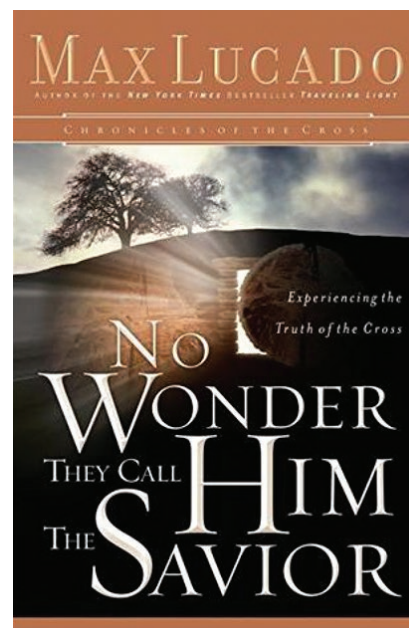
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Recommended Reading

The Cross Centered Life
CJ Mahaney



No Wonder They call Him the Savior
Max Lucado





Title: True Wisdom

Speaker: Marcus Tutt - Bible reference: 1 Cor 1:17-31(v18)

Overview

Wisdom is *"the ability to use your knowledge and experience to make good decisions and judgements"* (*The Oxford Dictionary*). You can be very clever but really unwise. The Corinthians were being rather unwise so Paul reminds them of true wisdom.

The 'word of the cross' is everything Paul was preaching and teaching and writing to them. It was the message from God about Jesus. Who he was, what he did, as the basis for how they should live their lives. It is the gospel and central to this good news is the cross.

True wisdom is building your life on the revelation of God in Jesus Christ. True folly is not doing so, ie building your life on the misapprehension that God is irrelevant.

The aspects of the cross that seem most foolish to some can most powerfully reveal God's wisdom.

To those that are perishing the cross seems: *However, to those that are being saved:*

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Unfair: "good" people are punished and bad people get away with it)2. Impossible: How can sin and guilt be transferred?3. Ineffective: Surely bad people will keep doing bad things if they are just forgiven and get away with it.4. Unnecessary: "We can fix/save/ redeem ourselves thank you."5. Ridiculous: "what sort of a saviour can't save themselves?" | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The seriousness of sin and God's goodness is revealed.2. God's power and love in uniting himself to us in Christ, and bearing our sin is revealed.3. Love is the greatest motivator. The one who is forgiven much loves much.4. The cross kills pride and gives the glory to God.5. Jesus could have saved himself. That he didn't shows his great love for us. |
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We may look and sound foolish for following Jesus but as we share the word of the cross, and live it out in our lives, God uses it to open eyes to true wisdom.

Response (SOUL)

Run through the following sections. Use smaller groups at any time if helpful.

S = Scripture - Read it, what does it say?

O = Observe - What do you see, context, details, surprises etc?

U = Understand - What truth does God want you to learn?

L = Live - What would it look like to apply this to your life?