

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



These discussion questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday message. You can use them for your personal Bible study, family study, and/or small group study.

Overview

Sermon: *Wisdom and Power*

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. - 1 Corinthians 1:18 (NIV)

In a church racked with divisions and doctrinal problems the Apostle Paul opens his Corinthian letter with the cross of Jesus Christ, the most necessary center of the gospel.

Discussion

1. What is something or somethings that you or someone else has done that others thought foolish but, in the end, it was a wise decision? What did you learn from that experience?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5. Describe how the cross-centered good news for salvation appear foolish to the wise? How would you describe the cross-centered gospel as power for those who are being saved?
3. Explain why salvation through Jesus is not based on intellect, strength or noble birth? How does worldly wisdom and power structures lead to division and not unity?
4. "Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified." What demands do people place on God today that has become for them a stumbling block and foolishness? How can we help remove those demands and allow Jesus to become for them power and wisdom?
5. The first five verses in chapter 2 do not negate persuasive language, literary forms, rhetoric, reason, or apologetics. Paul employs all of these in Acts and his letters. With that being said, how can we share our faith in Jesus while ensuring that we keep the cross the main thing in our testimony/witness or presentation?

Application

6. Is there something that has been foolishness and stumbling block for you? How can you return to the simple gospel of Jesus crucified?

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