

# The Superiority of God's Wisdom

Joel Engle, February 9, 2020 Small Group Discussion Questions

# **Getting Started**

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

#### Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through "observation" leaving enough time for "reflection", "discussion", and "surrender."

# Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

#### Observation: What does this scripture passage say?

#### Read: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5

- 1. What made the message of the cross difficult for Jews and Greeks to receive (1:18-1:31)?
- 2. Name some of the counterintuitive methods God uses to reach people (1:18-1:31).
- 3. Describe Paul's preaching to the Corinthian church (2:1-2:5).

# Reflection and Discussion: What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures? Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life.

- 4. We can spend a lifetime accumulating human wisdom and yet never have a personal relationship with God. We come to the crucified and risen Christ to receive eternal life and the joy of a personal relationship with our Savior. Why does Christianity appear "foolish" to those who don't know Christ?
- 5. In verse 27, Paul declares that no amount of human knowledge can replace or bypass Christ's work on the cross. If it could, Christ would be accessible only to the intellectually gifted and well educated, not to ordinary people or children. Is Christianity against rational thinking?
- 6. Paul was a brilliant scholar. He could have overwhelmed his listeners with intellectual arguments. Instead he shared the simple message of Jesus Christ by allowing the Holy Spirit to guide his words.
- Describe a time when the Holy Spirit used someone's words to bring about your salvation or a milestone moment in your spiritual journey.
- Describe a time when the Holy Spirit used an ordinary person, place, or thing to minister powerfully to you.

# Surrender: Responding to God's voice.

7. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

# \*\* Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today \*\*