

<u>GROW</u>

REAL LIFE HAPPENS HERE

- 1. R Rooted in Him
- 2. E Engaged in Community
- 3. A Adore Him in Worship
- 4. L Love Your Neighbor





For Christ didn't send me to baptize, but to preach the Good News



and not with clever speech, for fear that the cross of Christ would lose its power.



The <u>message of the cross</u> is foolish to those who are headed for destruction!



If any on you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me.



If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.



And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but are yourself lost or destroyed?



But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.



As the Scriptures say,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent."



Do you see a person wise in their own eyes?

There is more hope for a fool than for them.



So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's brilliant debaters?



God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish.



Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom,



"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the LORD.



"And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.



For just as the heavens are higher than the earth,



so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."



He has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe.



It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven.



And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom.



So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense.



But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles -



Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God.



This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans,



And God's weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.





Even though I am a free man with no master,



I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ.



When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ.



When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law.



Even though I am not subject to the law, I did this so I could bring to Christ those who are under the law.



When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law,



I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ.



But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ.



When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ.



Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some.



I have become <u>all</u> things to <u>all</u> people so that by <u>all</u> possible means I might save some.



I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings.



Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize?

So run to win!



All athletes are disciplined in their training.



They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize.



So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing.



I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what is should.



Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.





God has chosen us to share His message and His love with our neighbors.



We exist as a church to share this message with our community so that all will have a growing friendship with God.



with us Sundays @ 11

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