

Getting Started

With summer pretty much in the rearview mirror the weather is beginning to change and we all know what that means: precipitation. For some, this is invited and for the rest of us, not so much. Sticking with the weather theme, if you could live anywhere in the world, what part would you want to live in year-round and why?

Talking It Through

1. Review the sermon from Sunday: Re-read verse 17 from last week's text and this week's text together: 1 Corinthians 1:17-25, AND review the main sermon point from your notes. What was Paul getting at here?
2. The Hellenistic (Greek) culture in Corinth was obsessed with well-expressed philosophy and reason. At the heart of this "lofty speech" was a pursuit of power and influence. Does this sound familiar? What ways do you see this played out in our culture today?
3. At the time that Paul wrote this letter, the idea of God being crucified would have been far more preposterous and offensive than it sounds to us today. Over time, as the message of the cross has been preached, we find ourselves almost unsurprised to hear that Jesus died on a cross. Can you think of any core elements of the gospel that come across as "folly" in today's culture? In other words, what aspects of the gospel speak directly against the cultural values/beliefs of the world today?

Taking It Further

4. Take a closer look at verses 19-21. If it "pleased" God (v.21) to save those who believe, why did He not allow mankind to access salvation through human wisdom?
5. All this language of "folly" and "wisdom" can be confusing. How do you see Paul using these terms in this week's text? Is the gospel folly or is it wisdom? Or...both?

Taking It Home

6. Re-read the first and second point on "Responding to God's Word" in the sermon notes. Following God's wisdom is easier said than done. His ways are so unlike the ways of the world we live in. What are some practical ways to seek God's wisdom in your life? How have you seen God lead/convict you in the past? What are some indicators that you are following your own wisdom?

Time to PRAY

(Or do this at the beginning of your group time)

Take time to share prayer requests that relate to the people in your group, and then pray for those needs.

Next Sunday: October 15, 2017

"God's Glory in Weak Vessels"

(1 Corinthians 1:26-31)

Pastor Jay Mosser