

Boasting in the Folly of Christ Crucified

1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5

1. What is the connection of 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5 to the larger context of 1 and 2 Corinthians?
2. For what purpose did God have in choosing what the world considers to be foolish, weak, low, and despised as His redeemed people (1 Cor. 1:26-29)? And for what reason did God choose to make His Gospel foolish to the world (1 Cor. 1:21)?
3. How is the term “Christ crucified” an apparent contradiction?
4. How was the concept of “Christ crucified” scandalous to the Jews? How was it foolishness to the Greeks in Paul’s day?
5. What likely reason is there that explains why Paul said, “And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling” (1 Cor. 2:3)?
6. What role did Greek philosophy play in the Corinthian believers’ understanding of spiritual wisdom and knowledge?
7. When you feel the shame of being totally out of step with the mold/wisdom of this world in any given situation, how would you apply 1 Cor. 1:18-2:5?