

The Power of the Gospel

The Allure of Other Gospels.

PREPARE

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ For it is written:

*“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”*

²⁰ Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than man’s wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man’s strength.

- In what ways is the message of the gospel “foolishness”?
- Ask God for wisdom as you study His Word and the gospel.

REFLECT

Either individually or in your core group take time to reflect on your week

1. Where have you seen God at work? What are you thankful for?
2. What has been difficult in the past week? Anything you are anxious about?
3. What prayer requests do you have?

STUDY the following Scriptures which speak to the false “gospels” Jesus and his followers dealt with:

- Jesus as a political savior: Acts 1:6-8; Matthew 22:15-22
- Gnosticism: 1 John 1:1-2; 1 John 4:2; 1 Timothy 6:20-21; John 1:14
- Judaizers: Galatians 1:6-9; Galatians 3:1-5; Galatians 5:1-12

Respond to this statement: “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us” – A.W. Tozer

When have you come in contact with any of the following gospels?

- “Get to Heaven” Gospel
- “Social” Gospel
- “Prosperity” Gospel

Study the following Scriptures which speak about the gospel:

- Colossians 1:3-8; 13-14
- 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

What serves to empower the transformation of the gospel? What is an obstacle to the gospel really making a difference?

RESPONSE (I kept the same response prompts from last week)

- If a non-Christian friend asked you to explain the gospel to her what are the main points you would want her to understand?
- What area in your life do you desire to experience the power of the gospel so that you can more fully participate in the Kingdom of God?
- Pray the Lord’s prayer every day for a week and look intently for those places where you experience the Kingdom of God here on earth.

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.*

Close in Prayer: List prayer requests here.