

## THE WEAKNESS AND FOOLISHNESS OF GOD

1 Corinthians 1.17-25

### THE EMPTIED CROSS?

The way we preach the Gospel  
can either minimize or put on display the true power of God.

Paul brings up Power and Wisdom. Two things that humanity is always pursuing, and two things that humanity has long worshipped. But these mentions of power and wisdom are deceiving, because what is revealed is that this power does not come through strength and might, but through weakness. This wisdom, likewise, does not come through eloquent philosophy or deep education, but through foolishness.

### A STUMBLING BLOCK OF FOLLY

**The Greeks:** this is another way of saying "Gentiles," or "non-Jews." The Greeks were wisdom seekers and sought a higher learning or spirituality through philosophizing and deep intellect. They didn't want a God-centered, sin-revealing message, making the world a better place through their own wisdom.

**The Jews:** The Jews sought a powerful Messiah who would prove that He is the powerful God they wanted, one who would depose their political foes and be a force to reckon with and put the evil, God-hating governments to shame.

The Greeks thought the Gospel was foolish.

The Jews thought the Gospel was weak.

But we see it as the power and wisdom of God fully displayed.

### BUT WE....

**Christ Crucified:** these two words should evoke an awe and wonder in our hearts. It should be music to our ears, honey on the lips, medicine for the soul, and joy in our hearts.

With the cross, we see a picture of both God's holiness, power, and hatred towards sin, in that He went to the length of even being willing to punish His own Son in order to destroy sin forever. With the cross, we also see a picture of God's love, kindness, and mercy, in that He went to the point of giving His Son to be punished for us despite us deserving His wrath.

To see God's wrath against sin, look to the cross.

To see God's mercy towards sinners, look to the cross.

-D.A. Carson



## NOTES:

### This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

Psalms 32:1

"Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered."

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at [amber@lifemission.tv](mailto:amber@lifemission.tv)**

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at [tyler@lifemission.tv](mailto:tyler@lifemission.tv)**.

## Contact Us

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## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **1 Corinthians 1.17-25**. What stands out to you in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do "those who are perishing" see the cross as folly and weakness? \_\_\_\_\_

### Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

Specifically reading **verses 21-25**, how does this text remind you of the Good News of the cross of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

### Repent and Confess

The Greeks wanted something more than the Gospel to give them "real wisdom" for life; the Jews wanted a powerful Messiah to provide all their wants in their own way. Sometimes we want steps or strategies for life to fix our marriages or financial problems and make us better people. Or, like the Jews, we want a God who will rule through natural means like giving us a government or society that is like Him, and destroying the authority of those who are against us, God's people. Both extreme views are wrong understandings of the Gospel. In what ways do you need to confess and repent of what you expect God to do for you or in this world? \_\_\_\_\_

### Ask for Provision

In light of these passages, what do you need to ask for from the Lord? Have you been taking the power of the Gospel for granted? Do you need to see the power and wisdom of God more clearly as you look at the cross? \_\_\_\_\_

### Your Life Mission

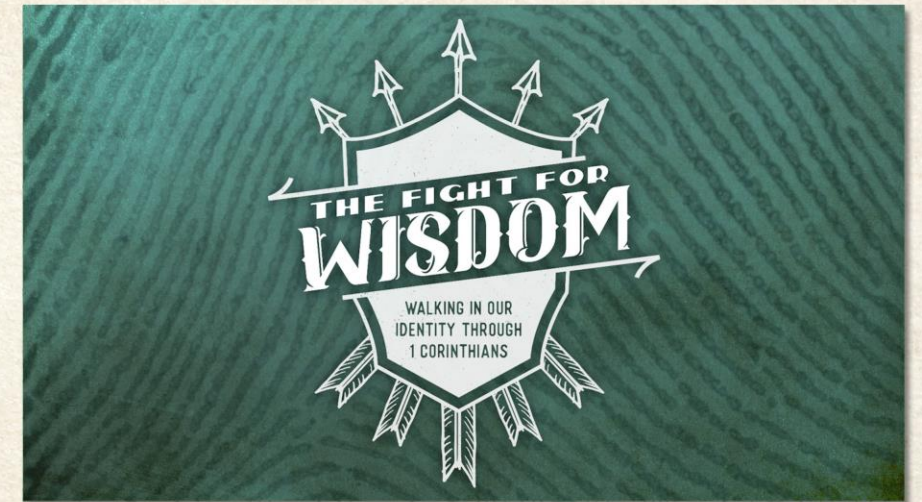
It can be intimidating to take what is viewed as a weak, foolish message to "those who are perishing." But the reality is that they are indeed perishing. Pray that God would break our hearts so much that we become desperate to share with them the "Word of the cross." What appointments or activities are coming up with unbelievers that you could use prayer for, that you may continue to build in-roads to Gospel conversations? \_\_\_\_\_

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Make sure to end your time of prayer **Yielding with Thanksgiving** for God's sovereignty and plan for your life.



**LIFE MISSION**  
C H U R C H

**MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,  
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.**



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1 Corinthians 1:17-25 // March 4, 2018

### SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

**GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE**

**LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM**



