

God's Beautiful Messy Church (1 Corinthians)
Week's Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5
Discussion Guide: January 16, 2022

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review: I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. - 1 Corinthians 1:10

Did you make any intentional steps toward unity this past week?

OPEN:

- What are some "wise sayings" of the world that are not true biblically?

READ and ASK: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5, Jeremiah 9:23-24

- What are some examples of the world's wisdom?
- Why do Christians and non-Christians value the message of Christ so differently?
 - o What are some doctrines of the Christian faith that are difficult for non-Christians to understand?
 - o What common difficulties do people mention when trying to understand the gospel?
 - o Have you personally encountered someone who balks at the message of Christ? Share a bit about that encounter.
- How has God made foolishness of the wisdom of the world?

APPLY:

- In what ways do these texts challenge you most?
- In what ways do you struggle with relying on the wisdom of the world versus relying on the message of the cross? What kinds of wisdom do you depend on that could be changed by the light of God's Word?
 - o How can we make sure that our faith rests on God's power and not our own wisdom?

- What difference should it make in your life to know that God chooses the weak and lowly people of the world to do His work?
- From whom can you learn more of God's wisdom? How and when?
- NEXT STEP: Whom could you encourage with the knowledge that God's weakness is stronger than our strength this week?

Memory Work:

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. – Romans 1:18

Next Week's Reading: Proverbs 1:1-3:35 (God's beautiful wise church)