

the book of
1st
Corinthians
Thursday Morning
Bible Class

1 Corinthians 1:26-3:4

1

God's Election – 1:26-31

† 26 – Paul illustrates the power of the cross: He points out that many believers were not “wise” by human standards. The church attracted all.
† 27 – A person is a believer, not because of his status, wealth, education, etc.
† 28 – Wealth or social status amounts to nothing in God's kingdom.

2

God's Election – 1:26-31

† 29 – Thus no one has anything to boast about in the presence of God.
† 30 – It is only because of God that we belong to Christ. Through Jesus we have God's wisdom, his righteousness, his sanctification, his redemption.
† 31 – If we boast, we boast in what God has done.

3

The Humble Preacher – 2:1-5

- † 1 – Another example: The “weak” and “foolish” nature of the Gospel is shown in his own preaching. He preached the simple Gospel message of the cross.
- † 2 – His sole aim was to portray the shameful death of Christ.

4

The Humble Preacher – 2:1-5

- † 3 – Paul’s bodily presence was weak. He demonstrated total inadequacy for the work he was called to do.
- † 4 – He did not try to impress them with fancy words of wisdom. But the power of the Spirit was at work.
- † 5 – Faith grounded in human wisdom is not faith.

5

God’s Wisdom – 2:6-9

- † 6- Human wisdom is incompatible with the “foolish” message of Christ crucified. But that does not mean that the Gospel has no wisdom. It is God’s wisdom.
- † 7 – God’s wisdom is a “mystery” – a secret that comes from the mind of God. This plan of salvation was ordained before the world began

6

God's Wisdom – 2:6-9

- † 8 – God's wisdom was unknown by the wise of the world. If they knew God's plan they would not have crucified Christ.
- † 9 – Quotes from Is. 64:4

7

God's Mystery Revealed – 2:10-16

- † 10 – We know the wisdom of God because God's Spirit has revealed it to us.
- † 11 – A little logic: just as only you can know what is inside of you, so only the Spirit can reveal the secrets of God.
- † 12 – It is impossible for the spirit of the world to get in touch with God's Spirit.

8

God's Mystery Revealed – 2:10-16

- † 13 – The source of Gospel wisdom is the Spirit.
- † 14 – The natural man cannot accept or understand the things of God. It is foolishness.
- † 15 – Only a spiritual man can discern the wisdom of God.
- † 16 – Quotes Is. 40:13 – We have been given the mind of Christ. Who can judge or instruct us?

9

Spiritual Immaturity – 3:1-4

† **“Christian maturity” – While no Christian ever fully reaches “maturity” or perfection, we, as believers in Christ, seek always to attain it. But we are often much like people of the flesh. Thus we are like “babes” in our quest for spiritual maturity.**

10

Spiritual Immaturity – 3:1-4

† **1 – Because they are spiritually immature, Paul addresses them as infants in Christ. Although believers, they still were more like their unbelieving neighbors.**

† **2 – So Paul gave them nourishment that suited their age. He gave them “milk” – basic Christian truths, not the deeper meaning of God’s wisdom.**

11

Spiritual Immaturity – 3:1-4

† **3 – They continue to operate as if they were of the flesh, not of the Spirit. Their strife and jealousy of one another is evidence of that.**

† **4 – They are broken into competing factions.**

† **The two factions he mentions were probably the larger of the four.**

12
