



CALVARY CHAPEL

From Foolishness to Wisdom: The Power of the Cross

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- Character is more important than gifting.
- Our vertical relationship with God influences our horizontal relationships with others.
- Christianity is built on Jesus, not someone's personality or gifting.
- The body of Christ is to be united by love, not divided by preference.

1 Corinthians 1:18 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.

- The cross of Christ both unites and divides.
- The weakness of God is greater than the strength of man.
- The plan of God to defeat evil, to reveal Himself, and to provide salvation for humanity became a reality in the cross of Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:19 For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

- God opposes the wisdom of the world.

Genesis 11:4 "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves."

Zechariah 4:6 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty.

1 Corinthians 1:20-25 Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? 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 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 human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

- To obtain the wisdom of God, we must first renounce our own wisdom.

Matthew 11:25 Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children."

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; **6** in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Corinthians 1:26-27 Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. **27** But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

- The power of God is most displayed through our weaknesses, not our strengths.

1 Corinthians 1:28-31 God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, **29** so that no one may boast before him. **30** It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. **31** Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

- Call **321.574.6970** if you have chosen to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.