

Messy

Part Two: *boast about Christ*

May 15, 2022

In this message series, I'm teaching you the lessons Paul gave the Corinthian Church to help you help your church be all it can be. Last Sunday, I gave you Paul's first lesson to the Corinthians... A church must think and act like Jesus to live in harmony and accomplish its mission. Today, I'm going to give you the second lesson you need to learn to help your church.

- Paul wanted the Corinthian Church to live in harmony so they could do what God wanted them to do. But the Corinthians had their eyes on men instead of on Christ (1:10-12).

How did Paul get the Corinthians' eyes off men and back on Christ?

1st - Paul reminded the Corinthians that Christ saved them.

1 Corinthians 1:13-17

The Corinthians were saved by Jesus - not by their church leaders. It makes no difference which church leader baptized them; baptism just shows they are connected to Christ's death, burial, and resurrection!

2nd – Paul reminded the Corinthians that the message of the cross came from God.

1:18-25

God's plan to redeem the world through the death of His Son Jesus may seem foolish, but the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power and wisdom of God! And it is wiser than the wisest of human plans.

3rd – Paul reminded the Corinthians that they should only boast about the Lord.

1:26-31

Most of the members of the Corinthians Church were not wealthy, highly educated, or influential when they were saved. So, they had no reason to boast about their salvation, or how important they are in the church. The Christians in Corinth were changed by Jesus, so they should only boast about the Lord!

4th – Paul reminded the Corinthians that true wisdom comes from the Spirit of God.

Chapter Two

In 1st Corinthians chapter two, Paul continues comparing human wisdom with divine wisdom. He explains to the Corinthians believers that everything the apostles taught them came from the Holy Spirit.

What is divine wisdom?

- Divine wisdom is understanding the will of God.

How does the Holy Spirit help us understand God's will?

- The Holy Spirit has revealed God's will to us through the Bible.

The Holy Spirit inspired the Apostles to write the Bible so we could know God's truth (2 Timothy 3:16-17). But the Holy Spirit didn't just inspire the written Word of God...

- The Holy Spirit also illuminates (opens) Christians' minds and hearts to the will of God.

Holy Spirit illumination does not mean a Christian can understand everything in the Bible without study. Every Christian is commanded to study God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15) and learn from gifted Bible teachers (Eph. 4:11-12).

Here's Today's Lesson from 1 Corinthians chapters 1 & 2:

If you are a Christian, you owe everything you are to Christ. So, boast only about the Lord Jesus today!