

Weak Fools for the Cross March 4th, 2018

(1 Corinthians 1:22-25)

²² Jews demand miraculous 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 man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

- 1. Give some different examples you've heard about or experienced recently (personal, pop culture, etc.) that exemplify the mindset that the Christian faith is foolish or weak.
- 2. What are some different kinds of evidence for God that the world "demands" or "looks for" today?
- 3. The Worship theme for this weekend is "The Way of the Cross Means Submission to the Word." An unbeliever obviously doesn't submit themselves to God's Word. What are some different issues we see in today's world that are resultant of the fact that the world refuses to submit to God's Word. (Read Exodus 20—The Ten Commandments—for help.)

- 4. Why was the teaching of "Christ crucified" an offensive concept both to Jews and Gentiles. Why would we say that "Christ Crucified" is rightly the true heart of the Christian faith?
- 5. The Greek word for "Crucified" is a perfect tense verb. In Greek, that means an "action that has been completed, but has ongoing results and consequences." Why is that a powerful way to remember the importance of Christ "crucified"?
- 6. Explain what Paul is saying in verse 25, where he writes, "For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength."
- 7. Knowing that, why can we rejoice in being labeled, "Weak Fools for the Cross"?

8. **Agree/Disagree:** The irrational nature of many of the teachings of Scripture are actually powerful pieces of evidence that God's Word is the truth, and not fabricated or fairy tales.