

TRUTH #2: It was _____ by the Rulers of the Age (2:8-9).

1 CORINTHIANS 2:8: “None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.⁹ However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him”

KEY QUESTION: *Why was the message misunderstood by the rulers of the age?*

- **The Cross is _____ to the Jews** (1 Cor. 1:22-23; Matt. 12:38;16:1; John 6:30; Deut. 21:22-23).
- **The Cross is _____ to Greeks** (1 Cor. 1:22-23; Acts 17:16-34; 1 Cor. 3:19).

Acts 4:23-28: “On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them.²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: “ ‘Why do **the nations** rage and **the peoples** plot in vain? ²⁶**The kings** of the earth take their stand and **the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.**²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed.²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen.”

TRUTH #3: It was _____ to us by the Spirit (2:10-13).

1 CORINTHIANS 2:10-13: “but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.¹¹ For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.¹² We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.¹³ This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.”

THE ROLE OF THE SPIRIT IN ACCEPTING CHRIST

1 Corinthians 2:4: “My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power...”

1 Thessalonians 1:4-5: “For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you,⁵ because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction.”

TRUTH #4: It’s _____ by those without the Spirit (2:14).

1 CORINTHIANS 2:14: “The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

KEY QUESTION: *Why do some reject the message of the cross?*

Romans 8:6-8: “The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;⁷ the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so.⁸ Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.”

Ephesians 2:1: “As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins.”

FINAL THOUGHTS

The message concerning Jesus Christ and what he has done on the cross was...

*Planned by God before there was time
Predicted in the Old Testament &
Presented to us in the N.T to
bring us to glory.*

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Announcements:

- A reminder that there will be no Small Groups next week due to Thanksgiving.
- A reminder to give your pledge for the “*Bringing In the Harvest*” Campaign by Sunday Nov. 29.

Questions:

- 1). What did you learn from this weeks message in 1 Corinthians?
- 2). Why does Paul speak against ‘wisdom’ in 1 Cor.1:17-25 and then speak for ‘wisdom’ in 2:6?
- 3). What do the following passages have in common with 1 Cor. 2:7 (Rom.16:25-26; Col.1:24-2:3; Eph.3:1-13)?
- 4). What is ‘*the mystery*’ in each of the passages above? What was ‘*hidden*’ in the past but now made known?
- 5). What do the following passages tell us about God’s plan of redemption (See Titus 1:1-3; Rev.13:8; 2 Timothy 1:9-10; Gal.4:4-5).
- 6). In 1 Corinthians 2:8 Paul tells us that ‘the rulers’ did not understand the message so they crucified Jesus. Who are these rulers? Why did they not understand the message? See Truth #2 for more information.
- 7). In 1 Corinthians 2:10-13 Paul tells us that the message of the cross was accepted by some because the Holy Spirit revealed it to them. Does the Holy Spirit do this for everyone? If so, then why do some not believe and end up rejecting the message?
- 8). Why do some see the cross as a scandal and foolishness (1:18-23; 2:14) and end up rejecting the message, while others accept it (1:18)? How would you answer this question in light of 1 Cor.2:14?

SERIES: LIFE IN THE FATHER’S HOUSE

Today’s Message:

“4 Truths About the Message of the Cross”

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

Pastor Cory Anderson / 11.15.09 / SMC

INTRODUCTION:

TRUTH #1: It’s God’s _____ of Wisdom (2:6-7).

1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-7: “We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

➤ It was _____ in times past.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:7: “No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

➤ It was planned for our _____.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:7: “No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

➤ It was planned by God before there was _____.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:7: “No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

2 Timothy 1:9-10: “This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”