



A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of October 8, 2023

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

Warm Up

- **Share about a time you were weak or foolish. We hate being in that position. Why?**

1 Corinthians 1:17-2:2

^{1:17} For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

^{1:18} For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

^{1:19} For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

^{2:0} Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ^{2:1} For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ^{2:2} For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ^{2:3} but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ^{2:4} but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ^{2:5} For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

^{2:6} For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ^{2:7} But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ^{2:8} God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ^{2:9} so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ^{2:10} And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification

Christ the Power and Wisdom of God

and redemption, ^{3:1} so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

^{2:1} And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ^{2:2} For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

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- **Paul contrasts two messages. What are they? What is the heart of each message?**
 - **Why did God choose to express His power through foolishness, weakness, and lowliness?**
 - **How does Paul's ministry demonstrate the distinction between what the world values and the boast of the Christian?**
 - **"Jews demand signs, and Greeks seek wisdom" (22). Why is the Cross of Christ a scandal to both camps?**
 - **Share about a time when your weakness, foolishness, or lowliness made room for the power of the Gospel in your life.**
 - **Read the passage together again, and use it as a guide for a time of prayer.**

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Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene,
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