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Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Resume of Those Called 1 Cor 1:18-31

Lesson Background and Introduction

Paul wrote the letters we call 1 and 2 Corinthians sometime between AD 54 and 57 while in Ephesus (1 Corinthians 16:5-9). Paul had received reports of several issues troubling the Corinthian congregation (1:10-17). In the section of verses preceding today’s lesson, Paul identified one of those problems: factions. Members of the congregation had been rallying around specific leaders in an unhealthy way (1 Corinthians 1:12). One of the factions had named Paul as its guiding light, and he objected, unwilling to countenance church divisions (1:13-16). He reminded his readers that he had come to Corinth to preach the gospel—period (1:17). This led him to recount the motives and actions of his initial visit to Corinth, today’s text.

Martin Luther, the sixteenth-century reformer, was inspired by this text in his doctrine of the cross. Luther found contrasts between this way ordained by God and the human way, the doctrine of glory. Luther argued that the human doctrine of glory is centered on human wisdom that leads to the blinding of hearts. However, he stated that the divine doctrine of the cross is centered on God’s self-revelation of His suffering Son, which softens hearts. The Christian message is still a scandalous stumbling block. The central historical fact is that Jesus of Nazareth was executed as a criminal would be: on a shameful cross. It was a brutal affair. It did not seem like a victory at the time, but a colossal defeat. Yet without the cross, there is no salvation! Today’s church still confronts the dangers Paul warned about: the church may seek the world’s approval. As Luther and Paul taught, the true way of salvation will seem foolish, weak, and shameful to the world. This Scripture text challenges us to examine how much we have accommodated our priorities to the world. What elements of the world’s “doctrine of glory” have we adopted? Instead, we should look to God, who can be found in sufferings and the cross.

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

The God who created the cosmos also made you, and He calls you by name

COMMENT FOR THE WEEK:

Advertisers have concluded that the most attention-grabbing word that viewers react to is their own name

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him, “Rabboni!” (which is to say, Teacher)

(John 20:16 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", June 12, 2018)

Series: From Darkness to light

UNIT 3: God’s Call

NEXT WEEK

Reminder of the Call
(2 Tim 1:3-14)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Calling by the Power and Wisdom of God (1 Cor 1:18-25)

Power of the Cross (18-19)

Power because it displayed Jesus' power over it (Acts 2:23-24)

Power because it brought peace between Jews and Gentiles (Eph 2:15-16)

Power because it displayed Jesus' obedience (Phil 2:8-11)

Power because it displays the world has been crucified to us (Gal 6:14)

Power because it displays the power of God's salvation (Rom 1:16)

Power over the world's wisdom (20)

Worldly wisdom does not glorify God (Rom 1:20-23)

Worldly wisdom does not understand spiritual things (1 Cor 2:14)

Worldly wisdom is of the devil (John 8:44)

Worldly wisdom perverts the ways of God (Acts 13:10)

Worldly wisdom is sensual, comes from ungodly lusts, and causes divisions (Jude 17-19)

Wisdom to know God (21-22)

God is known through knowledge of Himself in man's heart (Rom 2:13-15)

God is known through His invisible qualities and handiwork (Rom 1:20)

God is known through the removal of the veil of ignorance (2 Cor 3:13-16)

God is known in spite of man's hardened hearts (Eph 4:18)

God is known through repentance (2 Tim 2:25-26)

Wisdom of Jesus' crucifixion (23-25)

Crucifixion at the third hour (Mark 15:25)

Crucifixion that can be assured of (Acts 2:36)

Crucifixion because His own countrymen wanted Him crucified (1 Thess 2:14-15)

Crucifixion because the chief priests and rulers wanted Him dead (Luke 24:20)

Crucifixion that the Roman soldiers verified (John 19:31-35)

Calling for the Glory of God (1 Cor 1:26-31)

Glory for the foolish and weak (26-27)

Because God reveals to the foolish and weak (Matt 11:25)

To prove those who have followed Jesus (Acts 4:13)

To demonstrate God's power (1 Cor 2:4-6)

To prove God's wisdom is supreme (1 Cor 3:18-19)

To prove the wisdom is from God (James 3:13-17)

Glory for the despised (28-29)

For the despised because they are the work of God's hands (Job 34:18-19)

For the despised because of their trust in God (Ps 32:10)

For the despised because God destined it before time began (1 Cor 2:6-8)

For the despised so they can boast in knowing God (Jer 9:23-24)

Glory through being in Jesus (30-31)

In Jesus because He gives eternal life (John 10:28)

In Jesus because He is able to guard us (2 Tim 1:12)

In Jesus because He gives us strength and delivers us (2 Tim 4:17-18)

In Jesus because of the power of His sacrifice (Heb 9:27-28)

In Jesus to receive the goal of our faith (1 Peter 1:7-9)