

Sermon Devotionals for 1Corinthians 1:18-25

Monday: Written by Paul to the church at Corinth around 52-56 AD. Letters by Paul deal with problems and/or questions. Read 1Cor.1:1-9. Mark references to the recipients-*you*; references to Paul(*I, me, etc*); the word *called/calling*. List/highlight all that is true of the church; list/highlight facts about Paul.

Tuesday: Read 1 Cor.1:10-17; continue marking. What is the situation in this church?

The culture of Corinth was totally enamored with philosophy and philosophers. Each philosopher had their own belief system about the why/when/how of life and death and each philosopher had their own following of adherents. As people came to Christ and into the church, they brought this tendency to follow the opinions of teachers that appealed to them, see v.12. Consider: Is this a situation we find today? Do all believers agree on creation, the 2nd coming of the Lord, the way to observe communion? What is Paul's response to this? How important are the traditions and teachings of man to you?

Wednesday: Continue with marking items from Monday and add: *wisdom/wise, foolish/ness, power*. Read 1Cor.1:18-25, marking as you do.

In your notes, make two columns—one for the wisdom of God, one for the wisdom of man/world. List the facts of each as found in this passage. Now, based on this comparison chart, where should you go for advice, counsel, insight? Do you?

Thursday: Some cross references on wisdom-mark the word as before and add to your comparison chart of wisdom facts. 1Kings 4:29-30 Psalm 111:10 Prov.1:7,2:6 Eccl.2:26 Isaiah 47:10 Jeremiah 8:9,51:15 Dan.2:20-23 Romans 11:33 1Cor.1:30,2:6-8 2Tim.3:15 James 1:5,3:13-17

Consider: According to what you have read so far, how important is the wisdom of God in the life of a believer? Is it something you are to seek, cultivate in your life? How do you plan to do that?

Friday: Read 1Cor.1:21. What does it say about the world's wisdom and the knowledge of God? Read v.30-31? How did **you** come to know God?

Look up the following and list insights into why some folks reject the gospel and others accept.

Eph.4:17 1Cor.2: 9,14 Romans 8:5-7 1John 2:19-21 John 8:42-47

Consider: How do these insights help you with witnessing? With praying for the unsaved?