



Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

 Please review the following four verses from chapter 1.

**1 Corinthians 1:18-21**

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

<sup>20</sup> Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

Q1. Review: What was Paul's primary thought in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:19-21?

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<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. <sup>2</sup>For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.

Q2. What was the source of Paul's words? Did Paul believe that the words he spoke came from his innate wisdom?

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**John 1:1-2, 14, 17:** [Note the progressive elaboration – subsequent verses continue to define The Word]

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning... <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth... <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

**Romans 10:17**

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

**2 Peter 1:20-21**

<sup>20</sup> Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. <sup>21</sup> For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Q3. What is the main theme of 1 Corinthians 2:1-5?

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Q4. Are pride and boasting good character traits?

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Q5. If God used the talents, the gifted eloquence and speaking abilities of men and women to bring the Gospel message of our Lord Jesus Christ to others, what might that promote within the speaker?

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Q6. What character trait must a teacher or preacher of the Gospel of Christ Jesus be continually on-guard against? Why?

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Q7. How might a person control the character trait(s) named in the previous question?

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Day 2

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

*Wisdom From the Spirit*

<sup>6</sup>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.

Q8. What is the “message of wisdom” to which Paul is referring?

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Q9. To what might the “wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age” refer?

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Q10. Who are the “mature”?

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Q11. Why would “wisdom... of the rulers... com[e] to nothing”?

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<sup>7</sup>No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

Q12. We are so constrained by our schedules, by time. Is God?

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Q13. What is God’s “secret wisdom”?

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Q14. What does this mean for us: “God destined for our glory before time began”?

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**Psalm 139:16b**

All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

Day 3

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

<sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Q15. It is a simple phrase, but what does “the Lord of glory” mean to you?

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Q16. To whom is Paul referring: “the rulers of this age”?

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Q17. If you believe that the phrase “the rulers of this age” refers to the Roman political and Jewish leaders at the time of Jesus’ crucifixion, does it have any meaning for us, for our leaders today?

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<sup>9</sup>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" [Paul quoted Isaiah 64:4] — <sup>10a</sup>but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.

Q18. Verse 9: do you think this is true?

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Q19. Is this promise for all or for a selected few?

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Q20. Can you think of a Bible verse(s) that might illustrate Isaiah 64:4?

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**John 14:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

**Revelation 4:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." <sup>2</sup> At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. <sup>3</sup> And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian. A rainbow, resembling an emerald, encircled the throne.

<sup>4</sup> Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. <sup>5</sup> From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. Before the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. <sup>6a</sup> Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal.


<sup>6b</sup> In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. <sup>7</sup> The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. <sup>8</sup> Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." <sup>9</sup> Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, <sup>10</sup> the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say: <sup>11</sup> "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Q21. Do you think that our imaginations can grasp the actual "glory of Heaven"?

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Day 4

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

<sup>10b</sup> The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

Q22. What is the "Spirit"?

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**John 16:5-15**

<sup>5</sup> "Now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' <sup>6</sup> Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. <sup>7</sup> But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

<sup>12</sup> "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. <sup>13</sup> *But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.* <sup>14</sup> He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. <sup>15</sup> All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

<sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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.

Q23. Is there a difference between how the Holy Spirit in Old Testament times interacted with people compared to His interactions with people after Jesus' ascension into Heaven and the event related in Acts 2:1-4 (Pentecost)?


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**Acts 2:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> When the day of Pentecost came, they [the Apostles] were all together in one place.

<sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

 The following verses are manifestations of God to His Prophets.

**Genesis 15:1**

After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision . . .


**1 Samuel 3:10**

Then GOD came and stood before him exactly as before, calling out, “Samuel! Samuel!” Samuel answered, “Speak. I’m your servant, ready to listen.” [The Message (MSG)]

**1 Kings 19:11-13**

<sup>11</sup> The Lord said [to the Prophet Elijah], “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup> After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. <sup>13</sup> When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

 The following verses describe God’s Holy Spirit.

**Ezekiel 36:27** [Note: God tells the Old Testament Prophet Ezekiel about the future Holy Spirit who will indwell Believers.]

And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

**John 14:15-17** [Jesus continued]

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. [English Standard Version (ESV)]

**John 16:13-14** [Jesus taught]

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. <sup>14</sup> He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.

Q24. What are some examples of the work performed by the Holy Spirit? See the examples in verses John 16:13-14 (above) & Romans 8:26-27 (below).

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**Romans 8:26-27**

<sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints [Believers] in accordance with God’s will.

Day 5

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

<sup>13</sup> 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.

Q25. Could this verse summarize what Paul was teaching at the beginning of chapter 2, verses 1-5?

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<sup>14</sup> 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.

Q26. When we attempt to share the Gospel in obedience to the “Great Commission” and our words to another seem to fall on deaf ears, are we to believe that our delivery, our eloquence, our words are failures?

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Q27. Verses 13&14: When we speak to others about the Word, should we say an ‘arrow’ prayer before we open our mouths? And, if yes, for what should we pray?

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<sup>15</sup> The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment: <sup>16</sup> "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" [Paul quoted Isaiah 40:13] But we have the mind of Christ.

Q28. Verse 15: what kind of judgments might a “spiritual man make”?

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Q29. Verse 15: If a “spiritual man... is not subject to any man's judgment,” then to whose judgment is he subject?

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Q30. Verse 16: Are you reminded of a verse from 1 Corinthians chapter 1?

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**1 Corinthians 1:25**


For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

Q31. Verse 16: What does this phrase mean to you: “we have the mind of Christ”?

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**Day 6**

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

Q32. Is there a specific verse in Chapter-2 that is especially meaningful to you? What is the verse number? And why?

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