

A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5

THE WISDOM OF THE CROSS





True wisdom is found in Christ and
revealed through the cross.

1 Corinthians 1:18 ^{NIV}

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.



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**1 Corinthians 1:19-21** ^{NIV}

For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.” ²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ 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.



**Isaiah 37:36** ^{NIV}

Then the angel of the LORD went out and put to death a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the Assyrian camp. When the people got up the next morning—there were all the dead bodies!





1 Corinthians 1:19-21 ^{NIV}

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**Romans 1:16** ^{NIV}

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.





THE GOSPEL:

Holy God saves sinful people through the life,
death, and resurrection of Jesus.



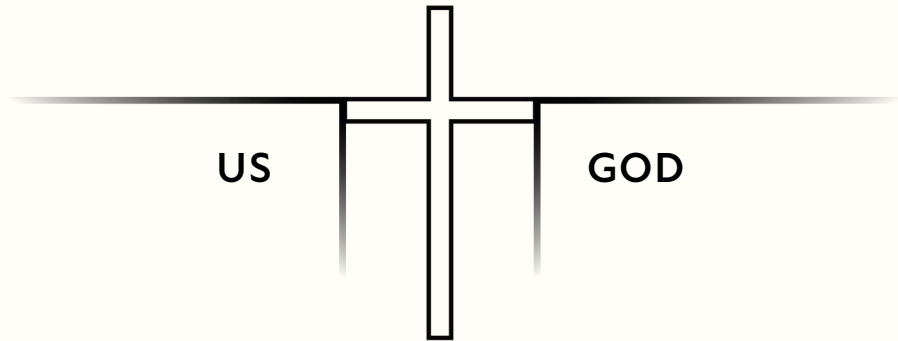
US

SIN

GOD

BRIDGE ILLUSTRATION







1 Corinthians 1:22-25 ^{NIV}

Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.





1 Corinthians 1:26-29 ^{NIV}

Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him.





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1 Corinthians 1:30-31 ^{NIV}

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

³¹ Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”



**1 Corinthians 2:1-5** ^{NIV}

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





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