

Session




Personal Study Guide

Finding Our Way


August 11, 2019


Introduction

 How would you answer the students' question from above—Why do you follow Jesus?


 Describe a time when you felt conspicuously out of place as a believer. How did you handle that feeling of alienation? What cultural clues signified how your faith made you different?


1. The Wise Perspective (1 Corinthians 1:18-20)

 What is the most moving speech you can remember hearing? Do you remember more about the content of the speech or the emotion of its delivery? What was the context?


 What sources of “wisdom” would you identify in our culture today? How much do you know about each of those schools of thought? How comfortable are you in distinguishing the faulty points of those belief systems in comparison with the gospel of Jesus Christ?


2. Saved through Belief (1 Corinthians 1:21-23)

 The faulty expectations of the Jews and Greeks hindered them from being able to hear the gospel clearly. What faulty expectations are you aware of that people might bring with them to Christianity? What expectations did you have when you became a believer that you later discovered were untrue?


 What about Christ crucified was so difficult for the two groups mentioned above to accept? What groups or types of people would you identify in our culture that would struggle for similar reasons?


3. God's Wisdom Versus Worldly Wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:24-25)


 What implication does God calling "both Jews and Greeks," or, in other words, people of every conceivable background to Himself in salvation have on your understanding of sharing your faith? How do you intentionally engage those that are of a different background in gospel conversations?

 How comfortable are you in explaining how God satisfied His own wrath for your sin? Why is it important to equally emphasize God's righteousness and love?

Conclusion

 How does it impact you when someone rejects your presentation of the gospel? Does it make you less likely to readily present the gospel at the next opportunity? How does Paul's word about God's calling shape your understanding of what it means to be faithful?

 What places that you visit regularly would you classify as being opposed to the gospel? What form of worldly wisdom can you identify as reigning in those places? How are you received in those places as a believer? Why do you think so?

 How confident are you in your ability to, like Paul, present a reasoned defense for your faith in Christ? How does that faith factor in to the way you make decisions daily?

Daily Readings

- Monday - Matthew 28:18-20
- Tuesday - Romans 16:25-27
- Wednesday - Galatians 3:8

- Thursday - Psalm 67:1-4
- Friday - John 3:16-18
- Saturday - John 14:6