

Sermon Study

I Corinthians 1:18-25; 4:10

April 1, 2018

vision

Eastview
Christian
Church is a
fearless church
of Christ
followers whose
ridiculous love
and dangerous
witness are
irresistible.

April Fools



AUTHOR'S NOTES (summary of key points for this study)

A crucified Messiah was offensive to the unbelieving Corinthian Jew much like the crucified Son of God is offensive to Muslims today. A crucified Savior was ludicrous to the unbelieving Corinthian Greek much like it is to today's skeptic or atheist. Following Jesus today may mean that, like the Gospel of the cross of Jesus Christ, we too will be called foolish or crazy. But remember for us it is the power of God.

Gather (your group getting to know each other)

1. Who was the wisest teacher or professor you ever had? What makes him/her so wise?

2. Are you more likely to play an April Fool's prank or to have an April Fool's prank played on you? Describe one that was particularly good or bad?

Go
(your group on mission)

How and to whom will you preach Christ crucified? Remember “preaching” here is simply testifying or proclaiming this Good News.

Grow (your group growing as Christ-followers)

Discussion:

1. Read I Corinthians 1:18-25; 4:10.
2. What is the “word of the cross” (ESV) or “message of the cross” (NIV)?
3. Why would the “word of the cross” or “message of the cross” be folly/foolishness to those who are perishing?
4. Read Matthew 27:32-56 and Luke 23:20-49. Where do you see folly or foolishness?
5. How is the “word of the cross” or “message of the cross” “the power of God” to us who are being saved?
6. Look again at Matthew 27:32-56 and Luke 23:20-49. Where do you see the power of God?
7. What were the Jews and Greeks in Corinth demanding or seeking? Why is that foolish?
8. How is this comparable to today in McLean County?
9. Why are people foolish trying to save themselves, seeking salvation from others, or disregarding their need for salvation through the crucified and resurrected Jesus?
10. Describe what it means to you to be both “called by God” and to be a “fool for Christ?” How do these realities for those who are being saved change our approach to life?
11. Knowing that you are called to be a fool for Christ, how important is it to see the power of God in the cross? How is the cross powerful?
12. When have you seen the power of God in the cross in your life?

Give
(your group serving each other)

Discuss how you will encourage one another to be “fools for Christ”. Pray for the power of God as seen in the cross of Christ Jesus to be evident in your life.