

Connect

Share a time when you tried to accomplish something important relying on your own strength or wisdom, but it didn't go as planned. What did you learn from that experience?

Verses - 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 (CSB)

Read aloud:

[1] When I came to you, brothers and sisters, announcing the mystery of God to you, I did not come with brilliance of speech or wisdom.

[2] I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. [3] I came to you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. [4] My speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, [5] so that your faith might not be based on human wisdom but on God's power.

Briefly restate the context.

Study

Refer to the phrases below from today's verses and answer the questions together:

1. In v.1, Paul mentions the "mystery of God" - What does this refer to?

2. In v.2, he writes a concluding phrase, "Jesus Christ and him crucified" - Why is this the central message? (How is it unlike brilliance of speech or wisdom?)

3. In v.3, he wrote, "Weakness, fear, and much trembling" - How does this describe Paul's approach to the Corinthians?

4. In v.4, he wrote, "with a demonstration of the Spirit's power" - What does he mean by this?

5. In v.5, he wrote that "faith might not be based on human wisdom but on God's power" - What's the difference?

Share

Discuss the analogies from this week's message

1. How does the roller coaster analogy illustrate the danger of a superficial faith?

2. What does the grapevine analogy teach us about our dependence on Christ?

Discuss

3. In what ways are you tempted to rely on your own strength or wisdom instead of God's power?

4. What are some practical ways we can "abide in Christ" daily?

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.