

"Power and Wisdom"

The real reason we are here:

To encourage you in your faith
To correct your understanding of faith
To convince you to have faith

We have an absolutely amazing message:

It is the message of the cross of Christ

God loved us in Christ
God came to us through Christ
God died for us by Christ
God lives for us because of Christ

A message with two responses:

We consider it foolishness: those perishing
We find it powerful: those being saved

What would it take to make you a believer?

The Jews demand miraculous signs

The proof of a miracle
The demonstration of the supernatural

The Greeks look for wisdom

The proof of reason
The persuasion of argument

We preach the message of Christ

The power of God
The wisdom of God

The power of God to find us where we were:

In our foolishness: not intelligence
In our insignificance: not influence
In our poverty: not resources

The wisdom of God to transform us in Christ:

Into righteousness: a life of obedience
Into holiness: a life of love
Into redemption: a life of grace

Something to really brag about:

Jesus Christ, our Lord!

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

18 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. 19 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 man? Where is the scholar? 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. 22 Jews demand miraculous 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 man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

26 Brothers, 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 He 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. 30 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 him who boasts boast in the Lord."

NIV



Follow us on
twitter

What is Twitter?

Twitter is a social networking service that allows you to share status updates with friends. It helps you share what you are thinking and doing with others. We use Twitter to send mobile updates from our services and enable you to interact with us during services. With Twitter, you can keep up with what's happening when you can't be here, and let us know what you are thinking when you are.

How does Twitter work?

When you send twitter an update, that status goes out to all your "followers." If you follow Middletownnaz, you will get our updates about the services either online or on your cell phone. When you reply to those messages, you send out a status update to your followers, including us.

How do I sign up?

Signing up is easy. Simply text "follow middletownnaz" (without the quotes) to 40404. If you have an account, you will become our follower and get our updates on your phone. If you don't, it will prompt you to create a new username. Just reply to that message with a username, and you're all set up.

How do I manage my account?

Go to <http://twitter.com> to set up your account and set options like protecting your status updates so only friends can see them. Just make sure you accept us as your friend!

How much does it cost?

Twitter is free, but standard text messaging rates apply, so make sure you have a plan that provides enough texts a month.

How do I stop getting updates?

Simply send "Off" (without the quotes) to 40404. You will have to send it twice to turn off all messages to your phone.

Sermon Notes

April 18, 2010

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

***"Power and
Wisdom"***

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Master copy of notes and audio version of the sermon at
www.middletownnaz.com