

### Week 3 Discussion Questions

**Text:** 1 Cor 1:18-2:5

**Icebreaker:** What is wisdom? Can you think of a time when you faced a decision where what was wise from one perspective may have seemed foolish from another?

**1.** Read all of chapter 1 through 2:5. What stands out to you from the text or from the sermon this week?

**2.** From verses 18-25, what does Paul mean that the gospel message—“the word of the cross”—is foolish to those who are perishing?

*Application:* Do you think this still rings true today? In your own experience, where or when have you seen that the gospel message is considered foolish by some?

**3.** From verses 18-31, is Paul arguing that God is opposed to wisdom or is he making some other point here? Explain what you think.

*Application:* How would our claim to salvation be different if it did depend on human wisdom?

**4.** What do you think it means to “boast in the Lord” in verse 31? What else do people tend to boast in?

*Application:* What perspective do these verses give us on both the practice and the results of sharing the gospel message with others?

**5.** In 2:1-5, how does Paul describe the approach he took with the Corinthians when he was in their city (see Acts 18 for background)?

*Application:* Take time to pray as a group that we (individually and as a church) would not fall into the trap of trying to impress others into the Kingdom of God, but that we would aim to live in such a way that testifies to the “foolish” wisdom and “weak” power of God.