



perfectly united

studies in 1 Corinthians 1-4

SCPC term 1 2008

sunday 2nd march 2008

study 5 one mind 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

KEY VERSE FOR SERIES: I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. **1 Corinthians 1:10**

In this study we check out what true spirituality is all about. Unlike worldly notions of spirituality that focus on our cleverness and insight to work things out, Christian spirituality is all about God's cleverness! True spirituality is about focusing on God's revelation of himself in the cross of Christ. Just like our salvation didn't come from our side but the cross blew heaven's door open from God's side, so it is with spirituality. We can only know God if he chooses to reveal himself. And the place he has chosen to make himself known is at the cross.

some notes on questions

Q1. Compare Colossians 1:26. This "secret" now out in the open, this "wisdom" now revealed is all about how God would bring salvation—it's the cross!

Q2. verse 8 is the key, recall also chapter verse 26.

Q3. We are rightly a bit miffed when someone says "I know what you're thinking!" - really someone only really knows what we're thinking if we reveal it to them. This is so much even more the case with God—it is incredibly presumptuous of anyone to say to God "I know what you're thinking!" - and yet that is what worldly 'spirituality' is—guess work about the mind of God! Confronted with the message of the cross, however, we are to stop our proud guessing and come humbly to God's amazing revelation of himself.

Q4. The person who wants to shun the message of the cross—or call you a fool for believing in it's message—they are speaking from a worldly viewpoint and are not to be listened to.

Q5. Having the "mind of Christ" doesn't mean that we know all Christ's thoughts, but that we see and understand the world not through worldly interpretations of things but always through God's revelation of himself through Jesus. We read the world through a Christ-lens.

Q6-8. In terms of our key verse for the whole series, 1:10, leave plenty of time for question 8 to focus on our unity in Christ. If spirituality was about US working out God, we could never be united because there's be as many 'spiritualities' as there are people. But because it is all about God's revelation of himself in Jesus—we have one spirituality, one mind, one Lord.

digging deeper: a theme that keeps emerging when we focus on the cross is the need for humility before God and with each other. Not only does the cross remove our pride before God, it is the most staggering display of humility ever, by Jesus himself.



remember that once the talk goes up on the website you can always post a question/observation by leaving a comment—it's easy to do and then others will also be able to see the response when it goes up and leave their thoughts too.

coming events

SCPC AGM: wed 12 mar 7:30pm
@park ave

good friday service: 9:30am 21 march
@lismore high

small group bible study leaders' notes