

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AOrd4x2017

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

18 For **the message** about 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**,
and the **discernment of the discerning** I will thwart.”

20 Where is the one **who is wise**? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not **God made foolish the wisdom of the world**? 21 For since, in the **wisdom** of God, the world did not know God through **wisdom**, God decided, through the **foolishness** of our **proclamation**, to save those who believe. 22 **For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom**, 23 **but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles**, 24 **but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God**. 25 **For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength**.

26 **Consider your own call, brothers and sisters**: not many of you were **wise** by **human standards**, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is **foolish** in the world to shame the **wise**; God chose what is **weak** in the world to shame the **strong**; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, 29 so that no one might boast in the presence of God. 30 **He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption**, 31 in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Primary Expressed Intelligence - {MWD} Self {D2} Math/Logic

Eye - I/S, People - I/S, Self - I/S

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic	The message = ho logos, lit. the word of the cross	1.23 The word for crucified here is in the perfect tense, a reminder that even though Jesus is resurrected, crucifixion is a lasting reality. 1.23 The word for "scandal" is "skandalon"	

		<p>which can mean stumbling block.</p> <p>Vs.19 <i>Isaiah 29:14</i>, God was destroying the wisdom of the wise, who thought they knew how to save Israel. God frustrated their most intelligent plans and schemes.</p>	
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p>		<p>DaVinci's drawing captured "the intoxicating, ephemeral moment when art, science and philosophy all seemed to be merging, and when it seemed possible that, with their help, the individual human mind might actually be able to comprehend and depict the nature of... everything." Man is the axis mundi. It's a mindset even older than the Greeks and even more creative than the Italian genius. It goes all the way back to a garden when a very creative lie destroyed the peace of paradise. Eat of that tree over there and "you will be like God knowing good and evil." - <i>DaVinci's Ghost, Toby Lester</i></p>	<p>Vitruvian Man</p>
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p>	<p>Topsy turvy logic</p> <p>Only that which is in Christ has substance</p>	<p>Miracles = proof of God's power and support of God's people; a magician bestowing flowers that came out of nowhere</p> <p>Wisdom as commodity = power and influence To become like the gods and jostle all others out of the way to attain this</p>	<p>We look to give and receive honors according to a system of values that crucified Jesus.</p> <p>Are we sure we want to play that game by those rules?</p> <p>Rather than showing the world how much better</p>

		<p>goal</p> <p>Wisdom and power come from the cross - “real greatness is the life poured out in love” ~Bill Loader</p> <p>The Butterfly Effect - when, in a complex system, small variations in initial conditions lead to significant differences in results</p>	<p>God is at wielding the kind of power it expects, or the sort of wisdom it demands, Paul proclaims the cross as an alternative means of enacting both wisdom and power. The gospel turns the economy of the world on its head.</p>
Body - Kinesthetic	<p>Stumbling block = a circumstance that causes difficulty or hesitation</p>	<p>Tripping over dogs, toys, cats, small children, sidewalk lumps, tree roots, shoes, stacks of junk piled up in random places, curbs, laundry baskets, etc.</p> <p>Dick Van Dyke’s ottoman.</p>	
Musical			
Natural	<p>Axis mundi = that which the world turns around</p>	<p>Nearly all of the world’s cultures have an axis mundi, whether it’s a mountain (like Mt. Fuji in Japan or Mt. Kunlun in China or Mt. Zion in Israel) or a man made structure (like the ziggurats of the ancient Middle East or the towers that house financial institutions in the modern world). Here Paul says that the true axis mundi, the genuine fixed point at the center of the world is Mt. Calvary and, more specifically, the cross and the one who died there. - See more at: http://cep.calvinseminary.edu/sermon-starters/le</p>	

		nt-3b-2/?type=lectionary_epistle#sthash.H9hLb0y9.dpuf	
People - Interpersonal	God isn't winnable through our achievements of power and wisdom	Paul argues that the cross, the most foolish act of failure ever, is the source of God's wisdom. It's like losing the Super Bowl in a blow out and still having a tickertape parade for the team when they return home. Plus they get the trophy.	Gather in groups and define wisdom. Why does Paul suggest that human wisdom is foolishness to God? And vice versa?
Self - Intrapersonal	It is not a good start to place an instrument of execution in the centre of your symbolism. People recognised it as an instrument of deterrence. Criminals hung on crosses! Paul is not, however, wanting to give a lecture about outsiders. He is really wanting to say something to those Christians who are behaving like outsiders because they are valuing their polished performances so highly.	The cross is like the electric chair or guillotine. It has taken on a different meaning through two millennia but was recognized THEN as a device of Roman torture. Waterboarding, tazers, handcuffs, barbed wire, federal courthouses, paparazzi, reality shows - what things in our lives would we consider scandalous or instruments of debasement?	Consider the shock of walking into a worship space and seeing a large object hung on the front wall depicting an aspect of common life that is used to humiliate, debase, or destroy others. [noose, bondage equipment, ...] What might that object be? Why would it be so difficult to hear that God has used this device to bring wisdom into the world?