



**The Week of January 24, 2021**  
**The Gospel is the Glue**  
**Conversation Guide**

**This Week's Take-Aways**

- **I place God's priorities above my own:** (Matthew 6:33) I will place God's priorities as described in the Bible ahead of my own.
- **About the Church:** (Ephesians 4:11-16) The church is a body of baptized believers who have been bought by the blood of Christ and are bound together by the Holy Spirit. The church is the body of Christ and exists to carry out His purposes on the earth.

**Intro Questions**

- Pastor David described his family and his daughter's in-laws as being as different as the Clampets and the Cleavers. What TV family best describes your family?
- Even with the best intention, what advice have you been given that was originally meant to be wise but turned out to be foolish?
- Given all the recent discussion about unity, what does the world say is unity?

**The Source of Wisdom**

- Read 1 Corinthians 2:14-16 (NLT)

But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. 15 Those who are spiritual can evaluate all things, but they themselves cannot be evaluated by others. 16 For, "Who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him?" But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.

- Have you ever shared your belief based on God's word with another individual and it was rejected as if you were speaking in a foreign language?

- Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but it is the power of God to us who are being saved. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will set aside the intelligence of the intelligent.

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the debater of this age? Hasn't God made the world's wisdom foolish? For since, in God's wisdom, the world did not know God through wisdom, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of what is preached. For the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles. Yet to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, because God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Brothers and sisters, consider your calling: Not many were wise from a human perspective, not many powerful, not many of noble birth. Instead, God has chosen what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen what is weak in the world to shame the strong. God has chosen what is insignificant and despised in the world – what is viewed as nothing – to bring to nothing what is viewed as something, so that no one may boast in his presence. It is from him that you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom from God for us – our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption – in order that, as it is written: Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'

- What did Pastor David mean by the following phrases?
  - The Gospel is the Glue that unites the Body of Christ.
  - The Gospel is a plan from eternity.
  - The Gospel is an action.
  - The gospel is an achievement.
  - The Gospel is a free gift.
  - The Gospel must be applied.

- Read 1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,

- What did Pastor David mean by "The Gospel brings us to God?"

- Read 1 Corinthians 1:18 (NLT)

The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.

- Do people know they are headed for destruction?
- The Cross is the world's most powerful icons but it's true meaning as been lost to a world that doesn't know the Good News of Jesus. What does the cross mean to you?

- Read 1 Corinthians 1:19-25

For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will set aside the intelligence of the intelligent. Where is the one who is wise? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the debater of this age? Hasn't God made the world's wisdom foolish? For since, in God's wisdom, the world did not know God through wisdom, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of what is preached. For the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles. Yet to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, because God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

- Where are you looking for wisdom (podcasts, social media, TV?)
- Pastor David says the Gospel leaves all other philosophies in the dust. How are you downloading biblical wisdom into your mind, heart, and life?

## Application

- Read Matthew 6:33

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.

- God has to be our number one priority as His followers. What are some practical ways you can demonstrate that He is?
- How does making God and Gospel your top priority unite us as believers?

- Read Colossians 1:28

We proclaim him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

- What are your next steps to grow in maturity, wisdom, and unity with other believers to live out the Gospel?

“So in a nutshell, that’s what the Bible means when it talks about the gospel. And as a church, everything we do is to pivot around the gospel. We come into the body of Christ totally different from one another. We have different likes and dislikes. We have different skills and abilities. Our histories are all over the map. We don’t lose any of that when we come into the church. Instead, we appreciate and celebrate all of that diversity.

“But, and this is huge, we all come together in unity around the gospel.

“Instead of being separated, the church is to be glued together around the gospel. It’s points of division are to be held up to the gospel and the gospel is to become the standard around which the church rallies and unifies”

- Pastor David Emmert