

## NOTES



## PRAYER

Father, thank you for Your wisdom that can help us live a God honouring life that builds Your Kingdom. May we desire to seek and do Your good and perfect will in every situation, pointing people to You. In Jesus name, Amen.

## OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

Share about a time when you thought something was foolish or unnecessary at first, but later realised it was actually wise.

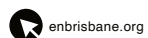


© 2025 by EVERYNATION BRISBANE®

All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), Copyright© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Permission to photocopy this material is granted for local church use. This is not for sale.



## WORD

### 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Christ the Wisdom and Power of God

18 For the word of the cross is folly 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, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly 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 the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly 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, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. 30 And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

### Supporting Passages

- Isaiah 55:8-9
- Matthew 5:3-12

## REFLECTION

Paul reminds us that the message of the Cross seems foolish to the world, but to those who are saved, it is the very power of God.

Human wisdom values strength, status, and eloquence, but God chooses what seems weak and foolish to shame the strong. This way, no one can boast in themselves—only in Christ, who has become for us wisdom from God, our righteousness, holiness, and redemption.

The Cross calls us to live by God’s wisdom, even when it looks upside-down compared to the world.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think Paul says the message of the Cross is “folly” (or foolishness NIV translation) to some but “power” to others?
2. In what ways do you see the world’s wisdom competing with God’s wisdom today?
3. How does the Cross reshape our view of pride, recognition, and success?
4. What do you think true success looks like for a Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered, socially responsible community?
5. How might boasting in the Lord give us freedom from chasing the world’s version of success?

### CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, thank You for reminding us that real wisdom is found in the Cross. Help us not to boast in ourselves, but in You alone. Wherever we go, fill us with Your Spirit and let our lives point people to Jesus. In the mighty name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.