

## STUDY GUIDE WEEK 2



### KEY VERSE OF WEEK 2

"so that your faith might not be based on men's wisdom but on God's power."  
1 Corinthians 2:5

### CONTEXT

As Paul continues in his letter to the Corinthians, he wants them to recognize his aim. His aim is in our key verse of the week, 1 Corinthians 2:5.

Paul had spent 18 months with The Corinthian church and so he saw first hand what their struggles were as he did life with them. It was his aim to help them not to put their faith in the wisdom of people. People can be so easy to go to for advice and they can make some really great Ted Talks or Pinterest boards. We have some great social media influencers among us that can really give us encouraging words along with a picture perfect instagram photo, **but this is not where we get our faith.** Our faith is not to be based on the wisdom of people. Our wisdom is to come from God. Paul shows The Corinthians and us today that there is a sharp contrast between what people think is wisdom and what truly is wisdom. Let's go back to what we read last week...

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but it is God's power to us who are being saved.

In Corinth, there were always philosophers coming through peddling the newest message or thought. Paul wanted them to know what he was preaching was different than anything they've ever heard. It was nothing from him but it was the message of the cross.

I like how Eugene Peterson paraphrases this in The Message:

*1 Corinthians 2: 6-10 We, of course, have plenty of wisdom to pass on to you once you get your feet on firm spiritual ground, but it's not popular wisdom, the fashionable wisdom of high-priced experts that will be out-of-date in a year or so. God's wisdom is something mysterious that goes deep into the interior of his purposes. You don't find it lying around on the surface. It's not the latest message, but more like the oldest—what God determined as the way to bring out his best in us, long before we ever arrived on the scene. The experts of our day haven't a clue about what this eternal plan is. If they had, they wouldn't have killed the Master of the God-designed life on a cross. That's why we have this Scripture text: No one's ever seen or heard anything like this, Never so much as imagined anything quite like it—What God has arranged for those who love him. But you've seen and heard it because God by his Spirit has brought it all out into the open before you.*

Paul tells The Corinthians and us today in 1 Corinthians 2 that knowledge and wisdom from this world will pass away. It's just like how twitter presents the news. What was trending last year is not even a blip on the twitter headlines today. It is the Spirit that brings wisdom and knowledge that is eternal. We need what we cannot get on our own. We need the The Spirit to show us what Paul quotes in verse 9 from Isaiah 64:4. We need what our eyes cannot see, our ears cannot hear, and our hearts cannot imagine. Ask The Lord to help open your eyes, your ears, and your heart to see His Kingdom and to preach His message of The Cross. Ask Him to help you latch on to that message more than anything else. Right now there are so many voices that are clamoring to be heard. Let God have the last word in your mind and heart this week. Use the attached Bible Reading page to help you to spend time with Him.

Praying for you Sis!



Follow us on instagram @girlsministrycollective and use the #girlsministrycollective so we can cheer you on as you study with us in 1 Corinthians!



*Amy Byrd*  
GIRLS MINISTER

**"WHAT VOICES ARE YOU LISTENING TO?"**

**1 CORINTHIANS 2**

**HOW DOES PAUL POINT US TO GOD'S POWER IN THIS PASSAGE?**

**WHERE DO YOU GO TO FIND WISDOM? WHO DO YOU TURN TO?**

**WHAT STOPS YOU FROM TRUSTING GOD'S WISDOM IN YOUR LIFE? WHY DO YOU OFTEN TAKE BACK CONTROL?**

**WHAT "VOICES OF MEN" (AKA PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE, ON YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA) ARE UNHEALTHY AND NEED TO BE PUT ON MUTE?**

**WHAT ARE SOME PRACTICAL WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP SEEK GOD DAILY AND MAKE HIS VOICE THE LOUDEST VOICE IN YOUR LIFE?**

## PRAY

Before you start to read the chapter of the week, ask The Lord to help you read His Word today. Ask Him to teach you today. Ask Him to see things in your own life you can't see. Ask Him to help you take what you read and apply it.

## READ

What verses are you reading from today? \_\_\_\_\_

What version of the bible are you reading it in today? (Try reading it in 3 different translations. Circle the translations you are reading it in below.)

### Formal Translations:

#### "word for word" translation

New American Standard  
English Standard Version  
Holman Christian Standard  
Revised Standard Version  
New RSV

### Functional Translations:

#### "Thought for thought"

New International Version  
New American Bible  
Revised English Bible  
Good News Bible  
New Living Translation

### Free Translations:

#### "A Paraphrase"

New English Bible  
Living Bible  
The Message

## IN YOUR OWN WORDS

Write out what is happening in the verses you read. Put it in your own words.

## APPLY

Reflect on what you just read, and walk through these questions with Jesus.

Is there a sin I need to confess to Him and ask Him to forgive me?

Is there a truth that I need to believe today?

Is there a promise that I need to hear and hold on to today?

Is there something I need to ask The Lord to help me live differently because of what I just read?

## QUESTIONS

What questions came up when you read the verses today? Were there words or customs that you didn't understand? Write those out. Those are important to not just pass over. Those are some of the ways He calls your attention to something you need to pay attention to in your own life.

## PRAY/JOURNAL

Take some time to pray/journal after your time of reading. Ask God to change your heart so that you look more and more like Him and less and less like the world. Ask Him to break your heart for what breaks His heart. Ask Him to help you focus on Him and less on what is all around you.