THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS

1 Corinthians 1:1-31

Key Verse: 1:18

1. How did Paul identify himself and the church in Corinth and greet them (1-3)? What do his thanksgiving topics suggest about the church environment (4-7)? What was Paul’s conviction (8-9)?

1. What appeal did Paul make (10)? Why were their quarrels such a serious matter (11-13)? Why did Paul emphasize the cross of Christ (14-17)?

1. Read verse 18. What is “the message of the cross”? Why is this message foolish to unbelievers? Contrast human wisdom and God’s wisdom (19-21). How does God deal with human wisdom? How does God work to save people?

1. What were Jews and Greeks seeking (22-23)? How did they regard the cross? What about today’s people? What does it mean that Christ is “the power of God and the wisdom of God” (24-25)? What was Paul’s confidence?

1. What kind of people were the Corinthians when they were called (26)? Why did God call people like them (27-29)? Why should we boast in the Lord (30-31)?