**It is finished! – 1 Cor. 1:18**

**Focal Truth: Whoever hears & believes in Jesus Christ crucified is saved from their sins**

Paul’s word to the Corinthian Church about the preaching of the cross of Jesus Christ

For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God – 1:18

We preach Christ crucified…to those who are the called…the power of God and the wisdom of God – 1:23 -24

For I determined to know nothing among you, except Jesus Christ & Him crucified – 2:2

What happens when someone hears the story of the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ?

Do you know what takes place when someone believes & trusts in Christ when they hear that Christ Jesus died for their sins?

Did you know that the Lord Jesus has commanded all His people to share the story of the cross with everyone, everywhere they go?

**Observations**

**1. Telling the story of Jesus Christ crucified is the gospel – 1:17**

*For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of*

 *speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be made void*

a. Gospel = good news

 b. Good news Jesus Christ died for sinners according to the scriptures

 c. Good news Jesus Christ took the sin of sinners on himself

 d. Good news Jesus Christ paid the penalty for sinners

**2. Telling the story of Jesus Christ crucified is the power of God -1:18**

 *for the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who*

 *are being saved it is the power of God*

a. The message of the cross awakens sinners to their sinfulness

 b. The message of the cross reveals God’s love for sinners

 c. The message of the cross convicts of sinfulness

 d. The message of the cross humbles the proud

 e. The message of the cross calls for faith in Jesus Christ

 f. The message of the cross promises the way to be reconciled to God

**3. Telling the story of Jesus Christ crucified saves believing sinners – 1:21**

*for since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know*

 *God. God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save*

 *those who believe*

a. World wise sinners will never come to know God

 b. Sinners who believe in the message of Jesus Christ crucified for sin are

 saved

 c. Pentecost – 3,000 were saved

 d. Ethiopian reading of Christ sufferings and death – believe & was saved

 e. The Thessalonians heard the message of Christ crucified & were saved

 f. Many today are saved after hearing that Jesus Christ died for sinners

Acts 3:14 – 15 – but you disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, but put to death the Prince of life, the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses

Acts 4:4 -but many of those who had heard the message believed and the number of them came to be about five thousand

**4. Telling the story of Jesus Christ crucified pleases God – 1:21**

*God was well – pleased through the foolishness of the message to save those who*

 *Believe*

 a. God was well – pleased to use saved sinners to share the message of Christ crucified

 b. God is well –please when saved sinners share the message of Christ

 crucified

 c. God is glorified when the message of Christ crucified is shared

 d. God blesses when the message of Christ crucified is shared

1:26 – for consider your calling, brethren, no many mighty, noble, God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise…

Acts 4:13 – now as they observed the confidence of Peter & John & understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus

**5. Telling the story of Jesus Christ reveals the power &wisdom of God – 1:24**

*but to those who are the called, the power of God &wisdom of God*

 a. Power of God to pardon sin

 b. Power of God to give grace

 c. Power of God to give new birth

 d. Wisdom of God for a world searching to find God

**Things to remember**

1. The best news comes in the worst news that Jesus Christ must die for sinners

2. God’s power comes as the message of the cross is shared with others

3. God is greatly pleased when the message of the cross is being shared with others

4. Jesus Christ is glorified when they tell the story of His death on the cross

5. God’s power to save comes to those who believe in Christ crucified

**Daily Use**

1. Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures – praise Him for His grace

2. Tell someone this week that Jesus Christ died for sinners

3. Rejoice that you have been saved by hearing & believing the message of the cross

**For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God**