



## THE LIVING GOSPEL

### COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-16

#### **INTRODUCTION**

*This study guide is to help individuals and groups learn and apply the truths of Scripture to where you are in life right now. To get the most from this study guide, work through it on your own before gathering with your community group.*

As we move into 1 Corinthians 2, Paul continues to encourage the church back toward their true purpose. He explains that their message should simply be Christ and Him crucified. This message challenged the church at Corinth, a center of lofty speech and show where it was culturally important to be in a position of recognition and prominence. Paul, knowing the nature of the city, directly attacks the worldly way of crafty language and formal presentation. He explains that the church should proclaim Christ above everything else and that, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, we have everything necessary to do it.

Paul reminds the church that they cannot ascend to God and receive the gift of the Spirit on their own, though. He reveals himself to His people, then gives them the humility to become bold proclaimers of his message. Paul simply calls the Church at Corinth to rely solely on the power of the Holy Spirit. The church cannot accomplish its purpose apart from the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Paul's encouragement gives a clear picture that the church should be humble before the Lord. The Lord promises to empower His people for the purpose of gospel proclamation.

#### **REFLECTION**

**1) What are some ways you find power in your life?**

## **BIBLE STUDY**

*The following questions will help you work through the passage.*

**Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

**2) How does the text describe Paul's demeanor and approach to preaching the message of Christ?**

**3) How does Paul's example show us our role as messengers of the gospel?**

**4) What is the power of God in verse 5?**

**5) Why do we struggle to live life like we believe in the power of God?**

**Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-9**

**6) What does the text say about the nature of Godly wisdom?**

**7) What is the secret and hidden wisdom of God?**

**8) Why is it impossible for anyone, including leaders and intellectuals, to understand the secret and hidden wisdom of God apart from Christ?**

**Read 1 Corinthians 2:10-13**

**9) According to the text, how do we receive the revelation of Godly wisdom?**

**10) What is the role of the Spirit in our ability to hear and respond to the gospel?**

**11) How does the Holy Spirit transform the way we proclaim the gospel?**

**Read 1 Corinthians 2:14-16**

**12) How do these verses show us our desperate dependence on the Spirit?**

**13) How can we rely on the Spirit, through Christ, to make gospel proclamation a part of our everyday lives?**

**PRAYER**

*Prayer is an essential component of your life as a follower of Christ, and an integral part of any healthy church body. As we pray toward Easter as a church, we have a great opportunity to continue praying through our prayer guide from Community Group Sunday.*

- 1) Fight to be in awe of Jesus (Psalm 119:18)**
- 2) Help me to be gritty in obedience (John 15:11)**
- 3) Help me live out everyday evangelism (Psalm 126:5-6)**
- 4) Help me to be fervent in prayer (2 Chronicles 7:14-15)**