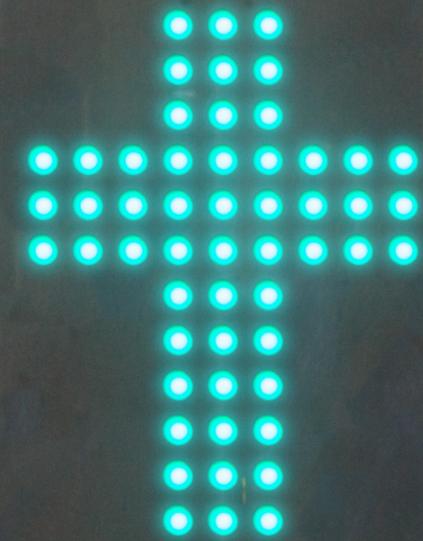


1st Corinthians and 21st Century Living



ACTS 18:9-11

⁹ One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision:
“Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be
silent. ¹⁰ For I am with you, and no one is going
to attack and harm you, because I have many
people in this city.” ¹¹ So Paul stayed in Corinth for
a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.



The beauty of unity...



I CORINTHIANS 1:10

¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.

The tyranny of celebrity...



I CORINTHIANS 1:11

¹¹ My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. ¹² What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

The tyranny of celebrity...

- It creates disunity



The tyranny of celebrity...

- It creates disunity
- It endangers leadership



“The celebrity culture we navigate is terrifying. Only the foolish have no fear of it. There is a trapdoor at the foot of every podium—and pastors, teachers and speakers can get swallowed whole.”

Beth Moore



The tyranny of celebrity...

- It creates disunity
- It endangers leadership
- It replaces personal discipleship

1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-6

¹ Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ.

² I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.

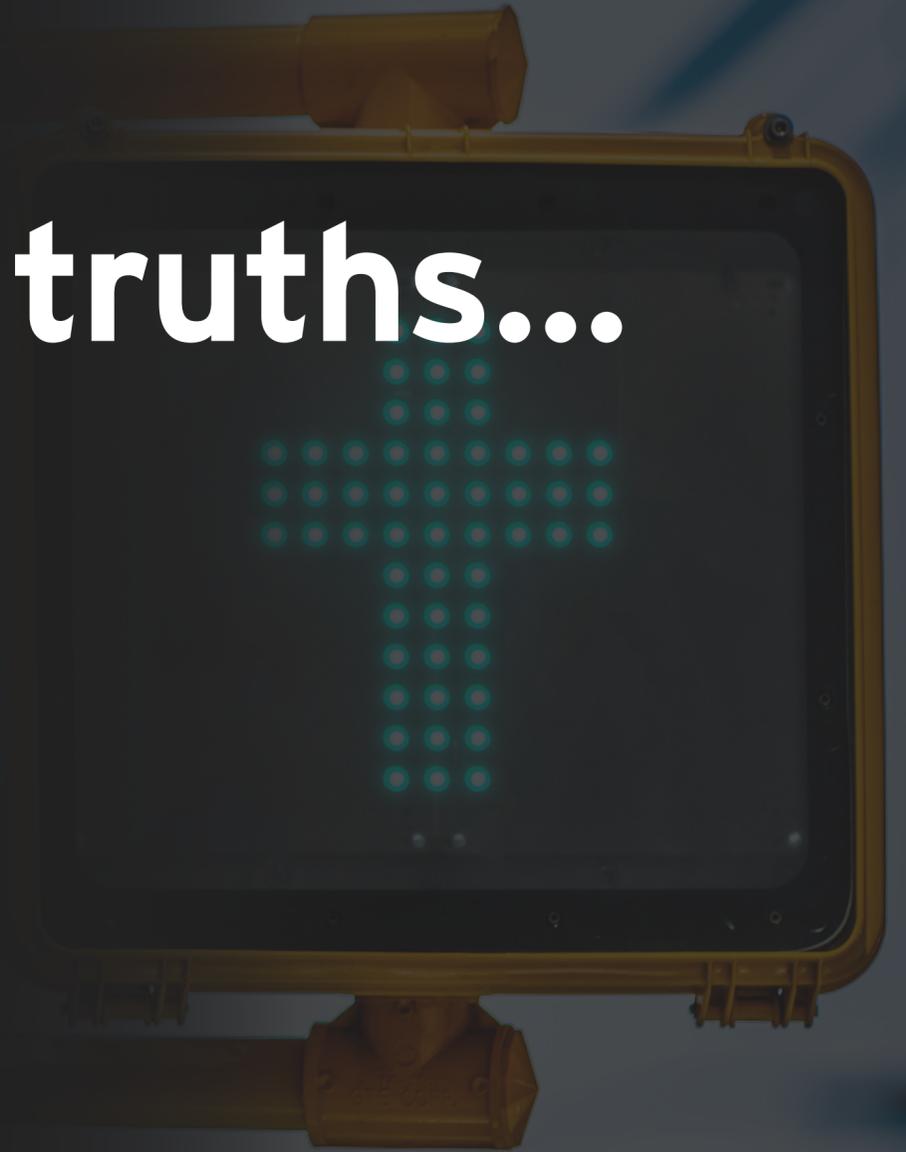
1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-6

³ You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans? ⁴ For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings?

1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-6

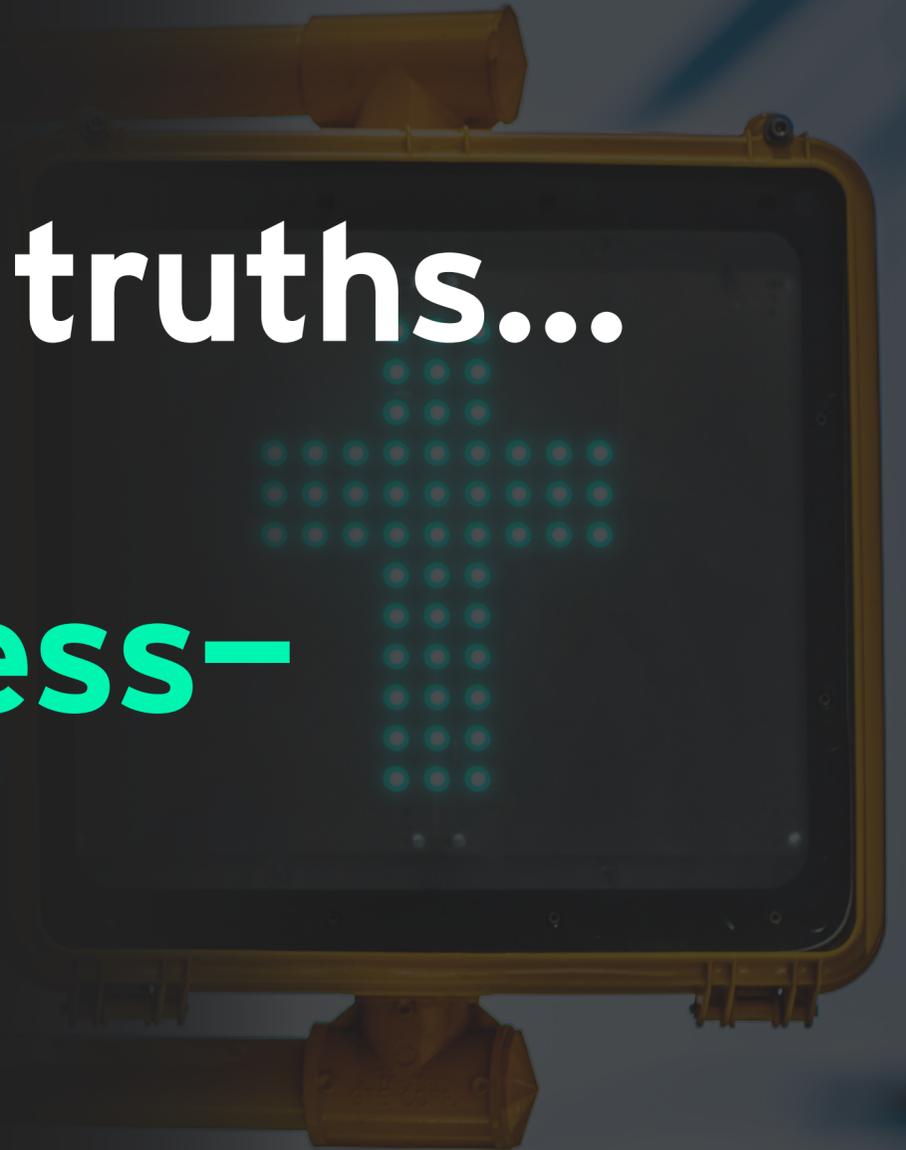
⁵ What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. ⁶ I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

Two spiritually releasing truths...



Two spiritually releasing truths...

**It's NOT our coolness—
it's Christ's cross.**



I CORINTHIANS 1:13–15

¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so no one can say that you were baptized in my name.

I CORINTHIANS 1:17

¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

“I did not find this message in the books I was reading (and I read just about everything—really). But slowly, subtly and for a time, a focus on vision, excellence, and seeker sensitivity had replaced the cross in my thinking. My ministry reflected my thinking, up to date but powerless...



...I was drifting, awash in leadership lingo and principles but often ignoring and even navigating against the way of Jesus, the way of the cross and the way of the kingdom of God."

Brian Dodd



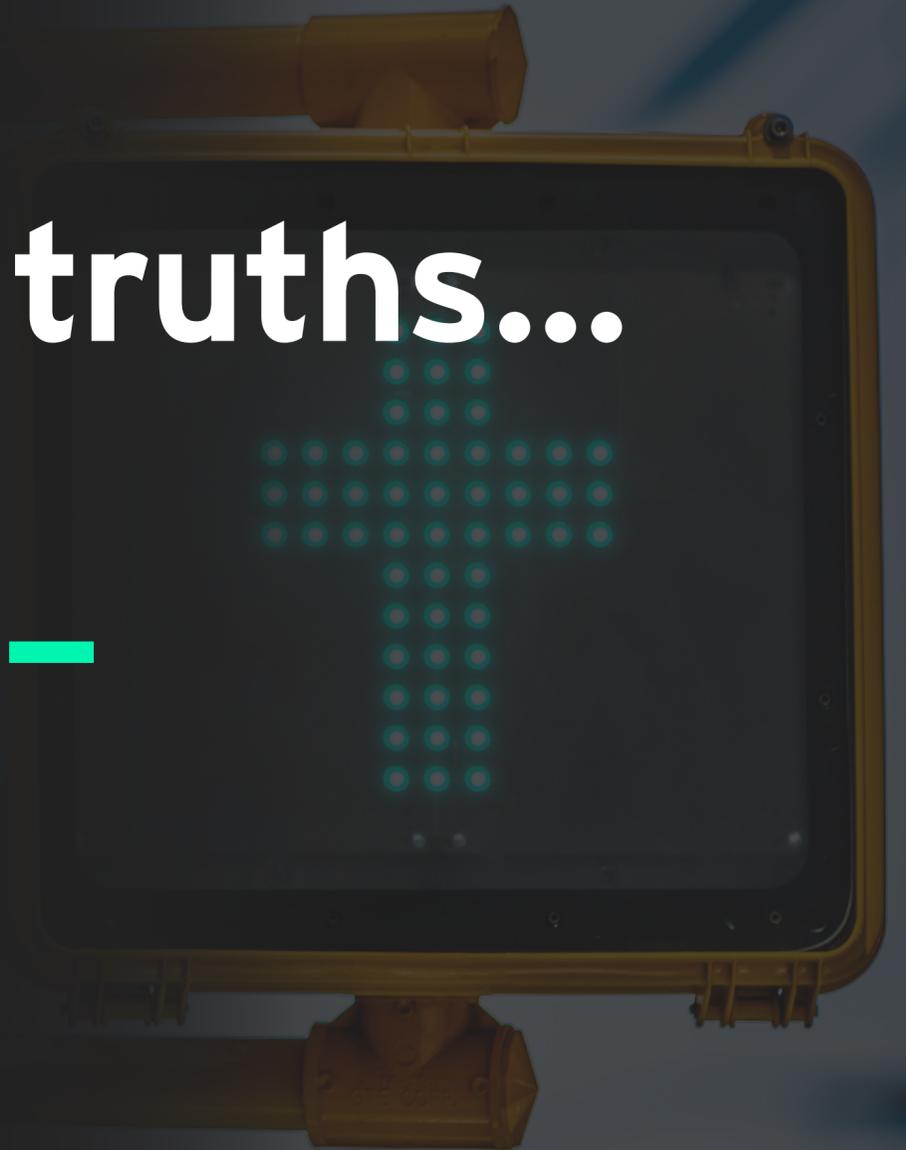
“In that old building, with its low rafters and bare floors, God took strong men and women to pieces, and put them together again for His glory. It was a tremendous overhauling process.”

Frank Bartleman



Two spiritually releasing truths...

**It's NOT our image—
it's Jesus' glory.**



I CORINTHIANS 1:26-31

²⁶ Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

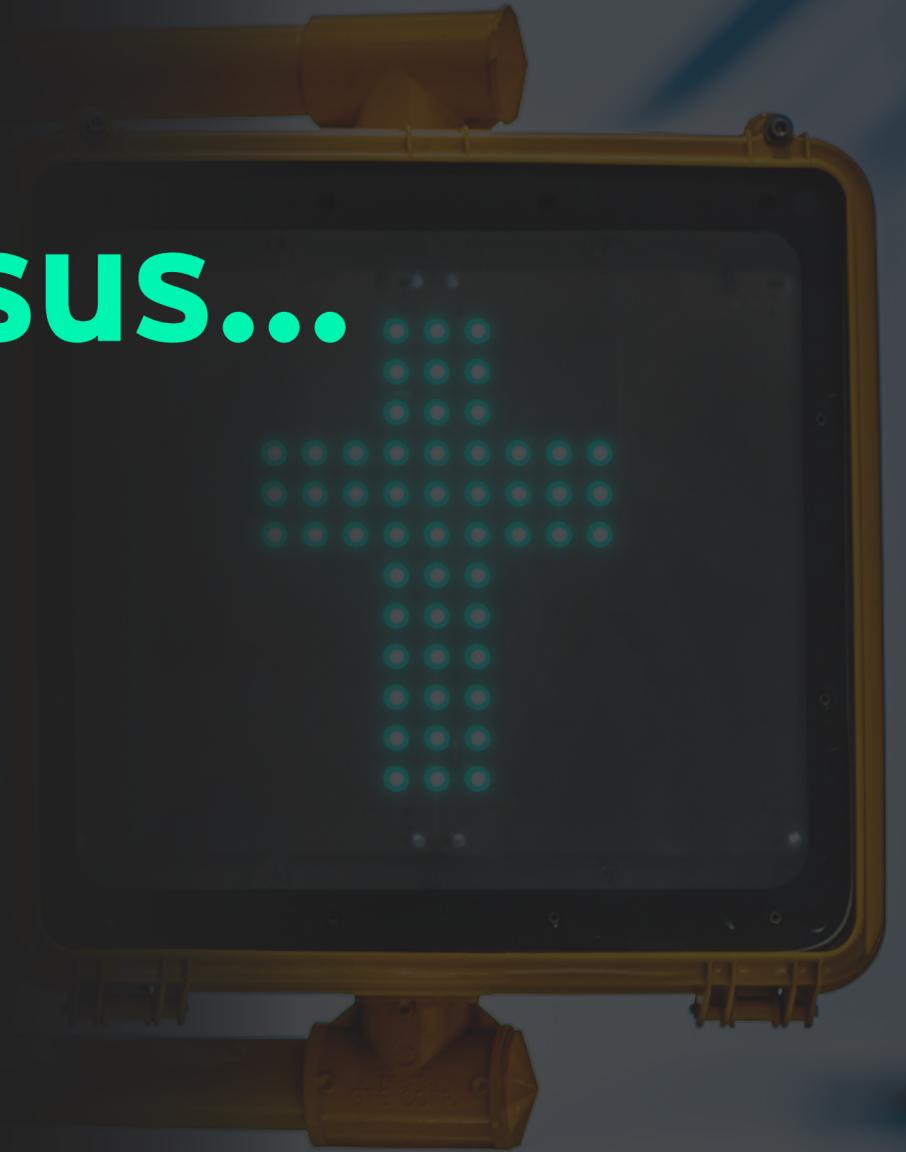
I CORINTHIANS 1:26-31

²⁸ God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him.

I CORINTHIANS 1:26-31

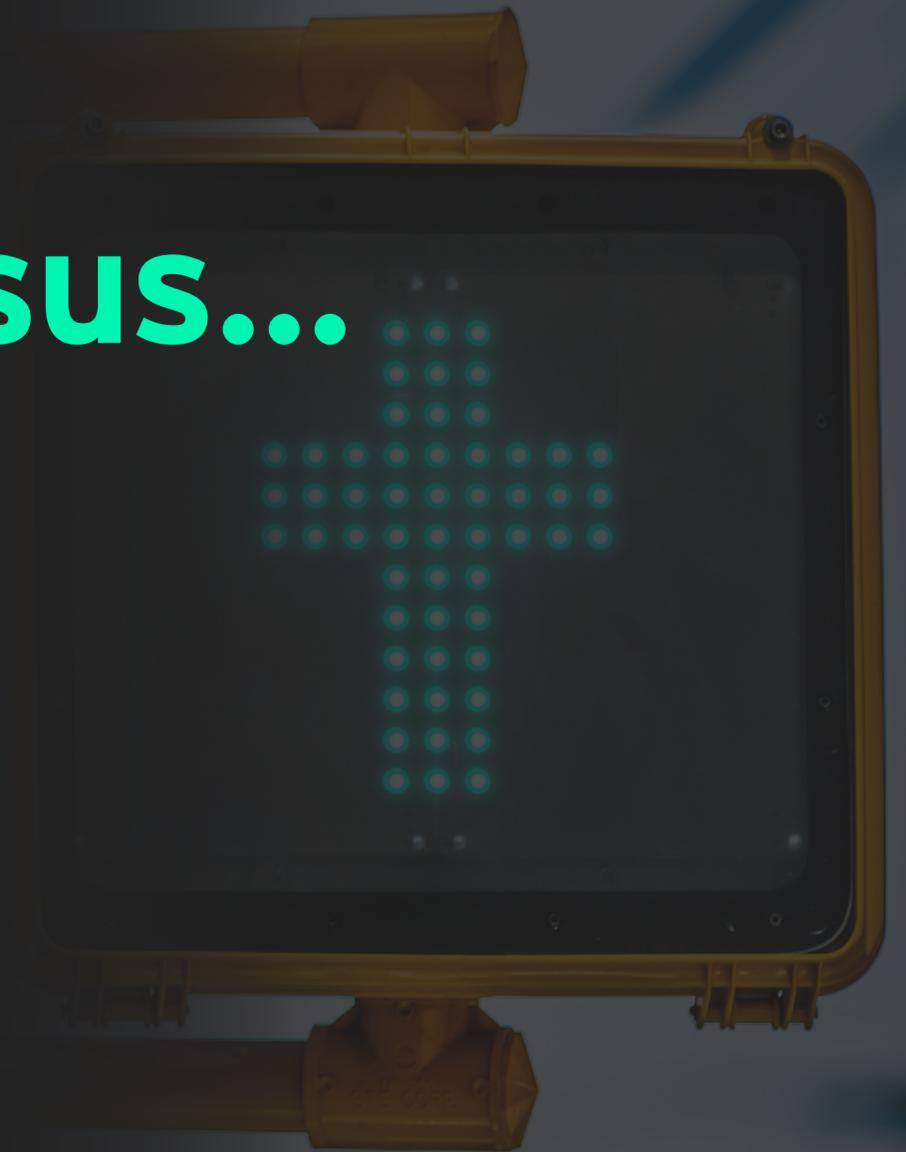
³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

God's 'wisdom' in Jesus...



God's 'wisdom' in Jesus...

- Righteousness



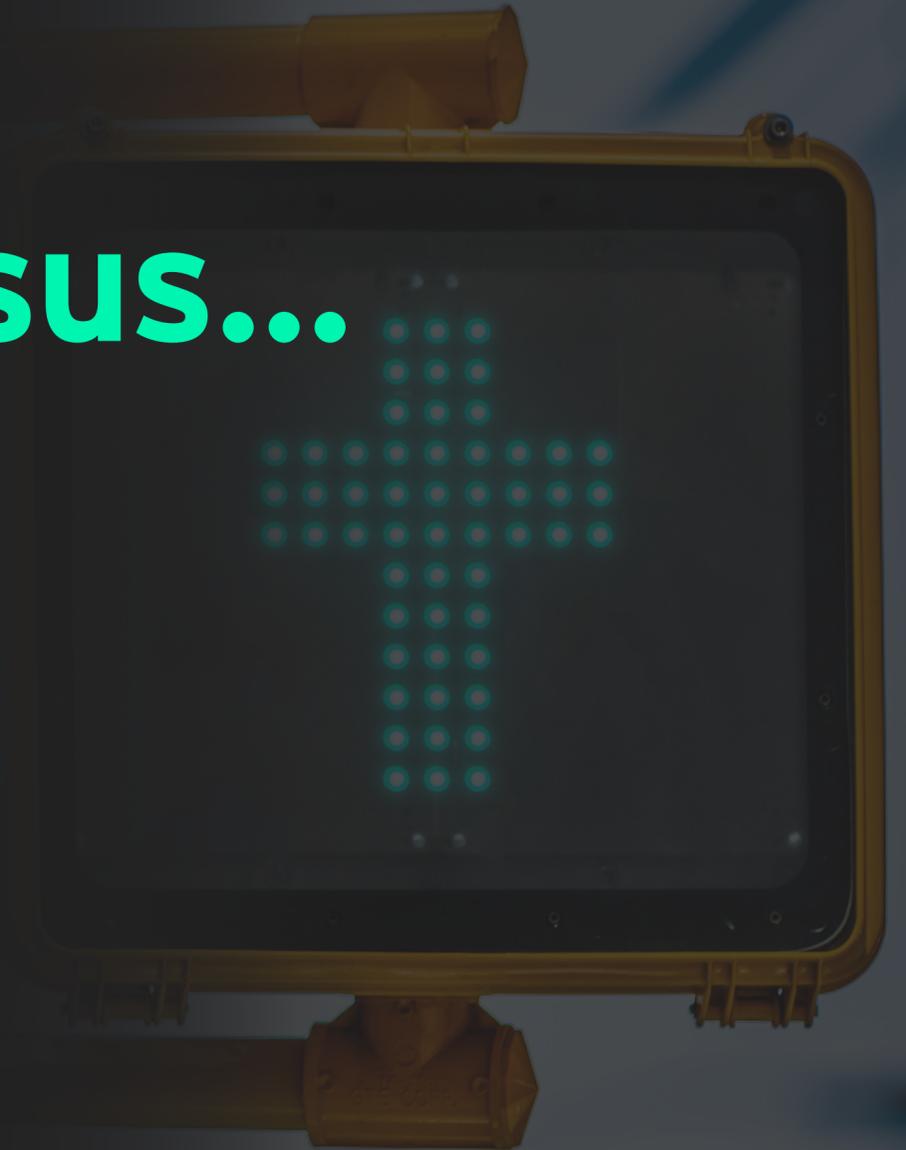
God's 'wisdom' in Jesus...

- Righteousness
- Holiness



God's 'wisdom' in Jesus...

- Righteousness
- Holiness
- Redemption



1st Corinthians

and 21st Century Living

