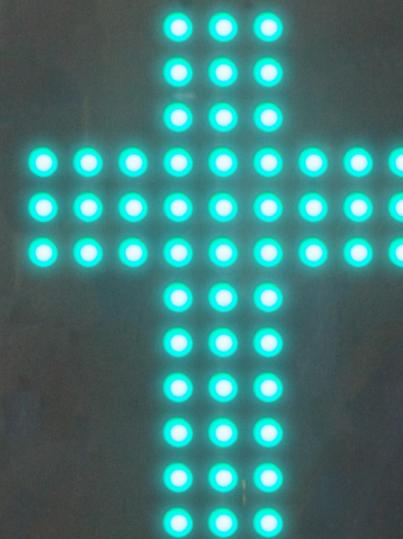


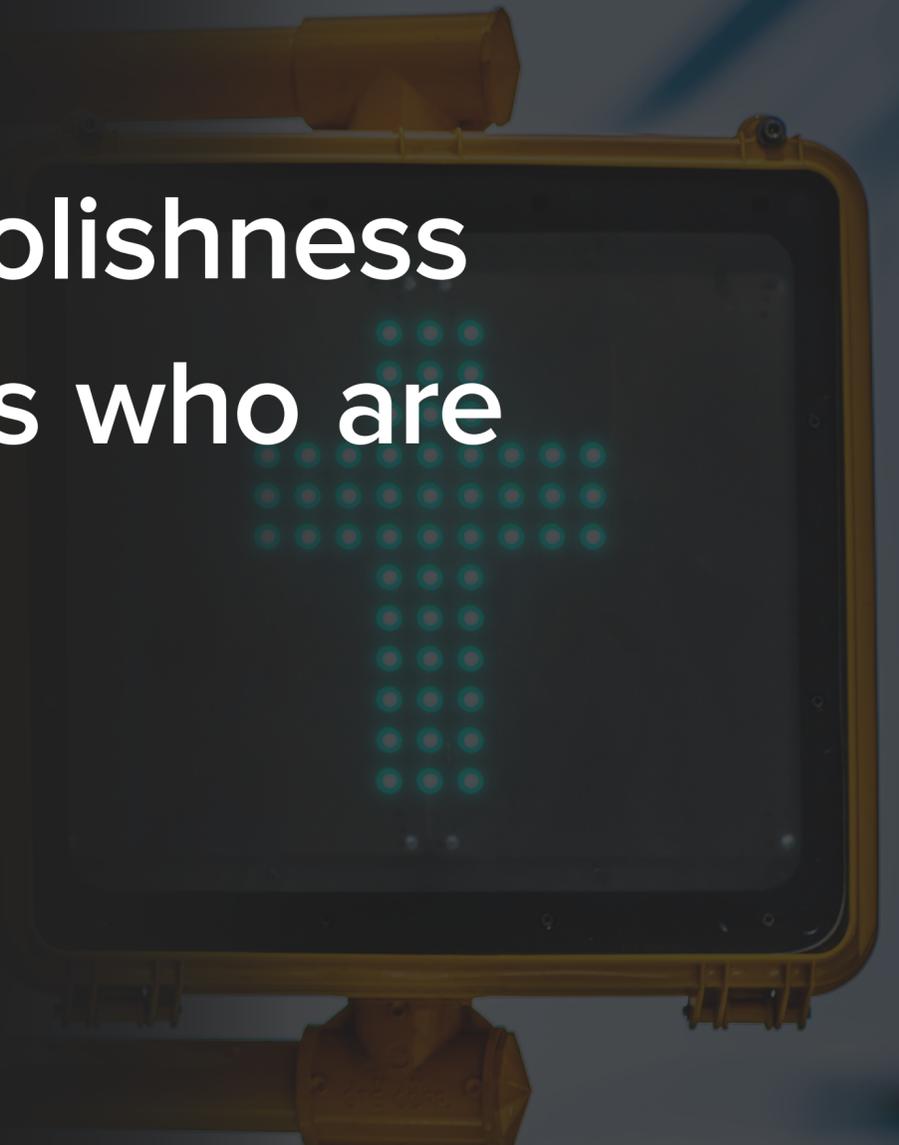
1st Corinthians and 21st Century Living

SCANDAL AND BEAUTY



I CORINTHIANS 1:18

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



I CORINTHIANS 1:20-21

²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

-GORDON FEE

"A God discovered by human wisdom will be both a projection of human fallenness and a projection of human pride."



The Scandal...



I CORINTHIANS 1:22-23

²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles...



The Scandal...

Jews: The stumbling block of a
victimized Messiah



The Scandal...

Jews: The stumbling block of a
victimized Messiah

Gentiles: The foolishness of a detested symbol



The Scandal...

Jews: The stumbling block of a victimized Messiah

Gentiles: The foolishness of a detested symbol

You and me: The quest for self-serving spirituality and social sophistication

-OSWALD CHAMBERS

"All of heaven is interested in the cross of Christ, and all hell is terribly afraid of it, while men are the only beings who more or less ignore its meaning."



-A.W TOZER

"The old cross slew men; the new cross entertains them. The old cross condemned; the new cross amuses. The old cross destroyed confidence in the flesh; the new cross encourages it."



The Beauty...



I CORINTHIANS 1:24

...²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

I CORINTHIANS 2:1-5

¹ And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. ² For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-5

³ I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. ⁴ My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, ⁵ so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

The Beauty...

Power: The Cross is God's doorway
to His deliverance



The Beauty...

Power: The Cross is God's doorway
to His deliverance

Widsom: The Cross is God's pathway
to His Spirit



1 CORINTHIANS 2:6

⁶ We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing...

1 CORINTHIANS 2:8-10

⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”—the things God has prepared for those who love him—

I CORINTHIANS 2:8-10

¹⁰ these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.



I CORINTHIANS 2:12

¹² What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.



I CORINTHIANS 2:14-16

¹⁴ The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

I CORINTHIANS 2:14-16

¹⁵ The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, ¹⁶ for, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

