

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 (February 20, 2022)

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

1. “Paul characterizes his message as the *testimony of God*. The preaching of the gospel is frequently regarded in the New Testament as an activity like that of a herald. Viewed in this way it is the passing on of a message given. But it is also frequently regarded as the bearing witness to given facts. Preaching the gospel is not delivering edifying discourses, beautifully put together. It is bearing witness to what God has done in Christ for man’s salvation.”
(The First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians p. 51 by Leon Morris)

Recall how you heard “the testimony of God.” Discuss the importance of not only knowing **what** you should say when you testify about God, but **how** you should testify to others.

2. Considering the divisions within the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 1:10-13), why would Paul preach “nothing except Jesus Christ and him crucified”?

3. What are the matters in your life that occupy your mind and cause you strife? Evaluate how redirecting your focus on “Jesus Christ and him crucified” could change your perspective of these matters.

4. For what **possible** reasons might Paul have said, “I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling” (Acts 17-18:10; 1 Corinthians 2:3; Galatians 4:13-14)?

5. Despite “weakness, fear and trembling” and speech lacking “in plausible words of wisdom:” how was Paul able to proclaim the Gospel (1 Corinthians 2:3-5; 2 Corinthians 12:9)? What lessons do you find that help you regarding sharing the gospel?

6. From 1 Corinthians 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 4:7; 10:4-5; Ephesians 1:19-21, 3:20-21, and any other applicable Scriptures, elaborate on the power of God.