

# Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

## 1 Corinthians 2:1-10a

### Lesson 4

Oh, how wonderful it is, how freeing it is, to realize we do not have to stand in our own power and wisdom, but have access to the power and wisdom of God. As Paul continues to point to the power of God, he reminds us of the benefits available solely to the believer. Rejoice with Paul as you study these awesome truths.

### DAYS ONE and TWO: Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-10a

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheets and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
  - a. 1 Corinthians 2:1-10a has been divided into two sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

**Verses 1-5**

**Verses 6-9**

**Note:** We will include verse 10a in next week's lesson.

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in prior homework lesson: *God, Jesus, Paul*, any references to the recipients of the letter, *power*, and *wisdom*.

New to this lesson: *Spirit*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 1 Corinthians 2:1-10a. Remember, as you mark the words *God, Jesus, and Paul*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to them. You do not need to mark every word that refers them - only those that you feel are significant.

3. Now, using the chart provided with your Observation Worksheets, add any information you feel is pertinent about the **Author(s)**, the **Recipients**, **Problems** and **Commands**.

### DAY THREE: Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

1. Sitting in this Corinthian Church we are amazed and blessed by the many who believed and were baptized in response to the gospel preached by Paul when he was with them in Corinth. We recognize that they are living evidence that salvation is not the result of brilliant oratory or man's persuasive presentation. How does Paul confirm this in the following verses?
  - a. 1 Corinthians 2:1
  - b. 1 Corinthians 2:3
  - c. 1 Corinthians 2:4a
  
2. According to verse 2, what was Paul *determined* they *know*?
  - a. How serious was Paul about this? See Philippians 3:8-10
    - 1.) In what ways does Paul's attitude inspire you?
  
3. Considering Paul's drive to preach the gospel, we might view him as a bold and courageous man. Read 1 Corinthians 2:3 and record how Paul described himself.
  - a. In spite of his *weakness* and *fear* what did Paul know according to Philippians 4:13?
    - 1.) In what ways have you experienced this truth in your life?
  
4. Knowing and believing what he wrote about God's wisdom and man's wisdom, Paul knew not to rely on himself. Therefore, what was his *speech* and *preaching* like? 1 Corinthians 2:4

Challenge: What does it mean to *preach in demonstration of the Spirit and of power*?

- a. Describe the difference between a simply eloquent preacher and one who preaches *in demonstration of the Spirit and of power*.
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5. *Faith* can be rooted in many things or people. According to verse 5 Paul desired that the Corinthian's *faith should not be in* \_\_\_\_\_ but in \_\_\_\_\_.
    - a. On a practical basis, what is the difference in the two?

## DAY FOUR: Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-8

1. The word *wisdom* occurs four times in 1 Corinthians 2:6,7. Make a list of what these two verses say about *wisdom*.

a. Who does Paul *speak* the *wisdom of God* to?

b. Whose *wisdom* does Paul not *speak*?

1.) What will happen to these *rulers* and their *wisdom*?

2. 1 Corinthians 2:7 uses the word *mystery*. This word, as it is used in the Bible, is used of a previously hidden truth now revealed by God to His people. To unbelievers it is still hidden. When did God *ordain* this vast eternal plan of salvation? See Ephesians 3:9 and 1 Peter 1:18-20.

Challenge: Explain the meaning of the phrase *for our glory*. 1 Corinthians 2:7

3. Read 1 Corinthians 2:8. What do you think *the rulers of this age* did not know?

a. According to John 3:19-21, what is one reason for their ignorance?

4. Who is *the Lord of glory*? See Psalm 24:7-10 and James 2:1.

a. How has personally knowing Jesus as *the Lord of glory* given you a better understanding of God's ways?

... "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent  
and have revealed them to babes.

- Jesus (Matthew 11:25)

## DAY FIVE: Read 1 Corinthians 2:9-10a

1. The things of the Spirit are *spiritually discerned* (1 Corinthians 2:14). Natural wisdom does not have the capacity to understand them. Verify this by completing the blanks from 1 Corinthians 2:9.

But as it is written \_\_\_\_\_ has not \_\_\_\_\_, nor \_\_\_\_\_,  
Nor have entered into the \_\_\_\_\_ The things which God has prepared  
for \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. This is a quote from Isaiah 64:4. Who is the one who God *acts* for?

- 1.) How is *waiting for Him* a display of *loving Him*?

2. God has *prepared* things specifically for *those who love Him*. Choose a few of those blessings from the following verses:

- a. John 14:2,3

- b. John 14:18,26,27

- c. Romans 8:28

- d. 1 Corinthians 15:49

- e. 2 Corinthians 1:3,4a

- f. Add to this list any others you think of.

3. As *those who love Him*, we not only experience the things that God *has prepared* for us in this life, but we can also look forward to the things He *has prepared* for us in heaven. What are you looking forward to?

4. Write 1 Corinthians 2:10a in big bold letters.

- a. God has *revealed* to us these things *through His Spirit*. Many of the truths we know about God are written in His Word, yet it takes the Holy Spirit to give us understanding. How would you explain this to a non-Christian or a new Christian?

- b. What are just some of the things you understand now that you are a believer that you did not understand before?

## DAY SIX: Review 1 Corinthians 2:1-10a

1. Why is it important for all who are ministers of the Word that *Christ crucified* be their central message?
  - a. What example can you draw from Paul in 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 for sharing the gospel with someone?
2. How have you been encouraged to look to God for strength rather than your own abilities?
3. Since God reveals His mysteries to *those who love Him and wait for Him*, what can you do to become more sensitive to His revelations?
4. Express how focusing on *the things God has prepared* for you has impacted you.
5. If you could only share one thing that has spoken to you about this lesson, what would it be? Why?

*However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come,  
He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority,  
but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.  
He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*

*- Jesus (John 16:13-14)*

## Lesson 4 – Scripture References

### DAY THREE

- 2a **Philip. 3:8-10** Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; <sup>10</sup>that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
- 3a **Philip. 4:13** I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

### DAY FOUR

- 2 **Ephes. 3:9** and to make all see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;
- 1 Peter 1:18-20** knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. <sup>20</sup>He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you
- 3 **John 3:19-21** And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."
4. **Psalm 24:7-10** Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. <sup>8</sup>Who *is* this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle. <sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. <sup>10</sup>Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He *is* the King of glory. Selah
- James 2:1** My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Lord* of glory, with partiality.

### DAY FIVE

- 1a **Isaiah 64:4** For since the beginning of the world *Men* have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him.
2. **John 14:2,3** In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not *so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.
- John 14:18** I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.
- John 14:26** But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.
- John 14:27** Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.
- Romans 8:28** And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.
- 1 Cor. 15:49** And as we have borne the image of the *man* of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *Man*.
- 2 Cor. 1:3,4a** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation....