

THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS

Tomorrow (Sunday, 05/02) we continue our new series in the book of 1 Corinthians (1:18-25). The Apostle Paul wrote this to the church he had founded while on his second missionary journey.

The culture of Corinth was a chaotic and confused mess concerning morality. Even though they were a passionately religious people, it was of no value in restraining the most vile parts of their fleshly desires. For, their religion was based on serving the creation rather than the creator.

Therefore, the Lord Jesus Christ, had sent the Apostle Paul to plant a church to be a light and a lifeline to those who had been enslaved by sin. And, after eighteen months of fruitful ministry there was an established and growing fellowship of believers.

After leaving Corinth and arriving in Ephesus, Paul took the time to send a letter back to the church in Corinth. In it he explained how God desired to use them to reach their family, friends and citizens of their city.

One can imagine how excited and yet overwhelmed the church must have been to read that God had commissioned them to reach the outrageously pagan city of Corinth. Their thoughts must have been from one extreme to the other.

Knowing the trepidation of the church, Paul's exhortation began by stating in no uncertain terms that God had chosen the "*Preaching of the Cross*" as the means to reach their city. It would be a simple but powerful and life transforming message.

Paul also wrote that the church must know and understand that the “*Message of the Cross*” wasn’t to be watered down so it would be more palatable for consumption nor added to so it would be more attractive in an attempt to gain a greater number of listeners.

Previously Paul had written, in detail, that the “*Message of the Cross*” had the power in and of itself to penetrate the most hardened of hearts and minds. And, there would never be a need to try and adapt it’s message to a certain culture or time period in history. For, It had always been and remained the power of God unto salvation.

I’ve entitled our series, in 1 Corinthians, “*Living Upright in a Fallen World*”. It is my prayer the Holy Spirit will ignite a fire in our hearts. And, a desire to burn brightly, for Him, in a world that is desperate to know the power of the Gospel.

Look forward to our time together. Please pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the entire Calvary Chapel family.

There are several opportunities for worship. On campus (10:00am & 12:00pm), drive-in church (92.1fm), and online (Facebook: Calvary Inverness)

Jesus Our Righteousness,
Pastor