

1 CORINTHIANS:

God's Glorious Church in Real Life

Sermon Title: The Glory and Gracious Work of the Spirit

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:10-16

INTRODUCTION

Jesus' encouragement to Paul: *"Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are My people."* (Acts 18:9-10)

1 Corinthians 2:10-16 -

I. THE SPIRIT'S GRACIOUS WORK AND OUR DESPERATE NEED

1) As God, the Holy Spirit is worthy of our worship and trust.

1 Corinthians 2:10-11 -

"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!" (Romans 11:33)

"He has exact knowledge of all things, and enters into the very depths of God, penetrates into His most secret counsels. Now who can have such a thorough knowledge of God but God?" (Matthew Henry)

2) Knowing the revealing work of the Spirit, we should not boast in ourselves!

1 Corinthians 2:12 -

"But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about Me." (John 15:26)

"And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'" (Galatians 4:6)

Note: The Holy Spirit teaches us about the treasures we have received in Christ.

3) In response to the Spirit's work, we should love, trust, treasure, and follow His word!

1 Corinthians 2:13 -

2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21 -

4) Because of the Spirit's work and word, we have "the mind of Christ"!

1 Corinthians 2:14-16 -

Note: When it comes to evangelism and sharing the Gospel, we (on our own!) don't have the power to convert someone or give them life! We can't intellectually argue or manipulate someone into saving faith; God must do that work in their heart.

The verb "*discerned*" (verse 14) is important! It teaches us several things...

#1 - It points to a continual process of evaluation & discernment.

#2 - This verb is in the passive voice which suggests that the believer must be guided by the Holy Spirit throughout his life.

In what way(s) do we "*have the mind of Christ*"?

#1 - We have the mind of Christ in the sense that we have the Spirit of God living in us and the Spirit desires everything that Christ desires.

#2 - We have the mind of Christ in the sense that our thinking is slowly being transformed into the likeness of Christ.

#3 - We have the mind of Christ in the sense that we have the Scriptures; we have the Spirit inspired word that reflects and shows us the heart and mind of God!

Note: Where does this leave us? ...in the BEST POSITION IMAGINABLE!!!

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. How do we know that the Holy Spirit is God?
2. What does the Spirit know? What is the Spirit able to search and understand?
3. How does understanding the Spirit work humble us and teach us about God's grace?
4. What does verse 13 teach us about Paul's writing and preaching? What's the source?
5. What does it mean that we "have the mind of Christ" (verse 16)? How should we live in light of this?