

**A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study**  
**Date: January 27, 2019**  
**1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5**

1. How did Paul finish his discussion of division last week, in verse 17? \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Are we drawn to people who are gifted and preach and teach with eloquence?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. How does Paul begin this text in verse 18? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What does he mean that the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing?
  - a. I don't know, it all makes sense to me.
  - b. Well, nobody expected a savior to die...that isn't how you save people.
  - c. It is hard to understand why anyone would give their life for people who hate them and want to kill them...nobody does that (see also Romans 5:7).
5. What is Paul saying in verses 19-25?
  - a. Even the wisest and smartest people are shown to be weak and powerless when we face life's uncontrollable circumstances. God is the only one who can overcome those things.
  - b. The wise and intelligent people didn't recognize Christ because they were looking for something else.
  - c. The entire message of the gospel is that God works miracles where we are weak and think things are impossible.
  - d. Wisdom and intelligence leads us to rely on our own strength...the message of salvation is a declaration of our weakness and recognition of what God can do in us if we recognize our weakness!
6. What does Paul direct us to consider in verses 26-29?
  - a. Who we were before we came to Christ.
  - b. What God has done in our lives now and how he has gifted us and used us in the lives of others.
  - c. What all of that says about what God is able to do...illustrated by salvation coming through a man accused and sentenced to death who ultimately brought victory to those who would trust in him.
7. Why does verse 30 say comes from Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
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8. How does Paul's testimony display the Spirit's power instead of man's wisdom?
  - a. He resolved to know nothing except Christ and him crucified.
  - b. He came in weakness and fear.
  - c. He came without wise or persuasive words.
  - d. We regard him as one of the wisest and most persuasive people in the history of the church because he relied on Christ instead of his own wisdom and intellect.
9. What do we rely on when we have a problem in our life? \_\_\_\_\_  
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