

# Notes on 1 Cor 2:6–3:15 for HGs 28 June 2023

The focus of teaching this term will be on the book of 1 Corinthians. This week we are looking at 1 Corinthians 2:6-3:15 where Paul speaks of Spirit-filled wisdom and challenges the Corinthian Christians as to how they view themselves.

## Study

1. [Intro question] How might people you know who are not Christians think about what true wisdom is and where it is found? *This is a starter question to get us thinking about the nature of wisdom today.*
2. What are the two types of wisdom Paul speaks of in 2:6-9? How do they compare and contrast with one another? *This is aimed to draw out the difference between 'the wisdom of this age' (v.6) and 'God's wisdom' (v.7).*
3. Where is this true wisdom found? How is it received? *This question is aiming to get people to see that true wisdom is only revealed by the Spirit, found in Christ. We are reliant on the Spirit of God to know the wisdom of God.*
4. How might you be tempted to look for wisdom elsewhere?
5. What might it look like to continue to seek after the wisdom revealed by the Spirit?
6. Whilst the Corinthian church considered themselves wise and spiritual, what is Paul's reckoning in 3:1-4? *Look to get people to bring out the different descriptions Paul uses in these verses and highlight the gravity of what Paul is saying.*
7. The Corinthians are keen to play up their leaders, whilst Paul is keen to play down the role of the leader. How does Paul do this in vv.5-9?
8. Whilst Paul emphasises his role as leader, he says the worker and their work isn't irrelevant in vv.10-15. In what ways does Paul talk about the importance of those who 'build'?
9. How are these verses challenging to those of us involved in any kind of ministry work? *It's worth stressing that these verses don't suggest a threat to a believer's salvation (v.15), but rather testing that the believer's work is built with care on the foundation of Jesus Christ (v.10-11).*
10. What areas might we as a church be tempted to elevate that could be in danger of taking us away from a foundation found in Jesus Christ?
11. Are there any ways you've seen this in other churches?
12. How can we encourage one another to be 'people who live by the Spirit' (v.1)?