

SERIES: URGENT WORDS FOR URGENT TIMES

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, September 9-10, 2023

SERMON: The Urgency of Seeking Christ

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 NIV

[1] And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God.

[2] For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

[3] I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling.

[4] My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power,

[5] so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

[6] We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.

[7] No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

[8] None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

[9] However, as it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived"— the things God has prepared for those who love him—

[10] these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

[11] For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

[12] What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.

[13] This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.

[14] The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

[15] The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments,

[16] for, "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

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1. The urgency of placing Christ _____.

- Our _____ is to know Christ and the power of His resurrection.
- We are always _____ to _____ our wisdom.
- The cross is the _____ of our preaching. In its light, problems are _____, and _____ direction is found.

2. The urgency of _____ to God (and not to men).

- Human wisdom _____ Christ!
- _____ should we now turn to human wisdom _____?

3. The urgency of having the _____.

- _____ can know God apart from God.
- Those apart from Christ are _____ to the _____ and _____ to _____ and happy to be so!

Lagniappe

Have you discovered Wednesday nights?

This past Wednesday night we had our full program of ministries including several new opportunities that started.

More than 600 people were present in various ministries on our campus, including preschoolers, children (in BLAST), youth, college, and adults of all ages.

What kind of events do we have for adults on Wednesday night?

- ❖ a verse-by-verse study of Galatians in Central Hall.
- ❖ healing ministries to meet your needs and to aid your growth - such as DivorceCare, GriefShare, Celebrate Recovery step studies, a class dealing with anxiety called Stillness, and starting next week - a class for widows called Grief's Healing Choices.
- ❖ PLACE Equip Class - to help you discover your spiritual gifts and a place for doing ministry.
- ❖ a study on A Place Called Heaven.
- ❖ a Women's Bible Study on Women of the Word.
- ❖ adult choir, orchestra, and praise band practice.

I am thankful for all of you who are seeking to live for Christ and grow in your relationship with him. I am thankful to have had more than 600 people who are in a developing relationship with Christ - and that is only Wednesday night!

On top of Wednesday night, we had almost 600 women in the Wednesday morning Women's Bible Study.

And we have so many other ministries for you. I hope you will take advantage of every opportunity to grow in Christ.

Waylon