

Sermon Series: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
"Wisdom from on High"
by Rev. John C. Tittle

Scripture Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:27-31* NRSV

²⁷ ...God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Discussion Questions:

1. What jumps out at you about this passage?
2. The sermon talks about "breaking on the floor" in debates, meaning that in the middle of a debate, you change your mind. Have you ever had a major change of heart or change of mind where you were "broken on the floor"?
3. What do you find most incredible and astounding about Christianity? Have we gotten too comfortable with how "foolish" it is?
4. Is Paul saying that Christianity is irrational? Why or why not?
5. Is Paul saying that Christians shouldn't learn? What is he getting at here?
6. In this chapter Paul says that the crucified Christ is the wisdom of God and power of God.
7. How is the cross both wise and powerful, when it seems so weak?
8. How would you personally define human wisdom? How would you define divine wisdom?
9. Why is boasting and arrogance so antithetical to Christianity? Why is it so easy to become boastful and arrogant?
10. How can we practice the importance of being foolish more often? How will it change how we see and live our lives?