



FOOLS

fools

There has been a movement that began over 2,000 years ago. It was started when Jesus invested in 12 men. Then after His death and resurrection, 11 of those men unleashed this movement in the world around them and the world has never been the same since.

When you look around at the world though it is often hard to see the effects of this movement. And definitely when we read scripture we often long for and wonder why we do not see moves of God like we read about in His word. There are many reasons for this but I think that one is that we have strived to hard to be normal. We try to blend in and fit in and therefore are not standing out as a light for Christ like we have been called to.

I have thought this for a while and then believed it even more when I read how Paul described him and his fellow workmen. He called them fools. They stood out so much and lived in such contrast to the world that they did not understand. So there was no better way to describe themselves then as fools. We need more fools in the world. This is why this study is devoted to understanding what it means to be a fool and what that life looks like. Here is how the study will break down.

LESSON 1: FREE IN CHRIST

LESSON 2: ON A MISSION

LESSON 3: OPEN HEARTS AND OPEN EYES

LESSON 4: LOVING COMMUNITY

LESSON 5: SELFLESS

I hope this study will bring you as much joy and conviction as it did for me in writing it. And I hope that it will spark a movement in the lives of those who you study it with that will spread all over the world.

LESSON 1: FREE IN CHRIST
ROMANS 6

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SESSION ONE

⁹ FOR IT SEEMS TO ME THAT GOD HAS PUT US APOSTLES ON DISPLAY AT THE END OF THE PROCESSION, LIKE THOSE CONDEMNED TO DIE IN THE ARENA. WE HAVE BEEN MADE A SPECTACLE TO THE WHOLE UNIVERSE, TO ANGELS AS WELL AS TO HUMAN BEINGS. ¹⁰ WE ARE FOOLS FOR CHRIST, BUT YOU ARE SO WISE IN CHRIST! WE ARE WEAK, BUT YOU ARE STRONG! YOU ARE HONORED, WE ARE DISHONORED! ¹¹ TO THIS VERY HOUR WE GO HUNGRY AND THIRSTY, WE ARE IN RAGS, WE ARE BRUTALLY TREATED, WE ARE HOMELESS. ¹² WE WORK HARD WITH OUR OWN HANDS. WHEN WE ARE CURSED, WE BLESS; WHEN WE ARE PERSECUTED, WE ENDURE IT; ¹³ WHEN WE ARE SLANDERED, WE ANSWER KINDLY. WE HAVE BECOME THE SCUM OF THE EARTH, THE GARBAGE OF THE WORLD. RIGHT UP TO THIS MOMENT.

1 CORINTHIANS 4:9 - 11 NIV

WHAT DO YOU THINK PAUL IS SAYING IN THIS PASSAGE?

DO YOU SEE YOURSELF AS MORE LIKE THE APOSTLES OR LIKE THE CHURCH IN CORINTH?

IF WE ARE "OUT OF OUR MIND," AS SOME SAY, IT IS FOR GOD; IF WE ARE IN OUR RIGHT MIND, IT IS FOR YOU.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:13

READ ROMANS 6

1. IN CHRIST WE ARE _____

2. THIS FREEDOM COMES ONLY THROUGH _____.

WHAT DO PEOPLE USUALLY SAY OUR FREEDOM COMES FROM?

BUT DO WE GET FREEDOM FROM?

A. FREE FROM _____

B. FREE FROM _____.

C. FREE FROM _____.

3. THIS FREEDOM IS _____.

SO AS WE CLOSE I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

1. DO YOU HAVE THIS FREEDOM?

2. WHO DO YOU NEED TO TAKE THIS GIFT OF FREEDOM TO?

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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

SESSION ONE

1. WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF AS A FOOL FOR CHRIST? WHY OR WHY NOT?
2. WHAT DO YOU THINK THINGS WOULD LOOK LIKE IF WE BECAME FOOLS FOR CHRIST?
3. WHAT KEEPS YOU FROM BEING FREE?
 - A. FROM SIN?
 - B. FROM DEATH?
 - C. FROM FEAR?
4. WHO DO YOU NEED TO GO TELL ABOUT THIS GIFT OF FREEDOM?
5. TAKE SOME TIME TO WALK BACK THROUGH ROMANS 6 TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO WRESTLE WITH ANY SCRIPTURE THEY DO NOT QUITE UNDERSTAND OR TO SHARE WHAT TRUTHS JUMP OUT AT THEM.

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