

Sermon Reflections

Spirit–Empowered Gospel, Part 2 (1 Corinthians 2:10-16)

Summary: Christ builds and unites His Church around The Cross. So, always persist in holding forth the message of The Cross.

Three reasons why we are dependent on the Spirit:

1. The Spirit Knows Spiritual Things (vv. 10-11)

- According to verse 10, what has God revealed to us through His Spirit?
- What attribute/perfection of the Holy Spirit is being alluded to, in verse 10, by the phrase: “For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.”? Who alone possesses this attribute? What can you conclude from this?
- In what way has the Holy Spirit disclosed to us what can be known about God? Discuss how these passages convey the idea that Scripture is His revelation. (2 Peter 2:21, 2 Timothy 3:16)

2. The Spirit Teaches Us Spiritual Things (vv. 12-13)

- According to verse 12 why have we been given the Spirit of God? List core gospel truths that the Spirit has taught us.
- What are some ways in which evangelists have tainted the message of The Cross with “man’s wisdom”? What are some potential dangers with this?
- Read Colossians 1:9, Luke 12:12, John 16:16, 1 John 2:27. Identify the phrase in each verse that proves that spiritual truths are taught by the Holy Spirit.

3. The Spirit Grants Us Spiritual Minds (vv. 14-16)

- What is another term you would use to describe the “natural man” in verse 14? What are some characteristics of him?
- Describe what “spiritually discerned” means in your own words? According to verse 14, what things are “spiritually discerned”?
- In what way does the fact that the natural man can’t receive or understand the message of the gospel affect your approach to evangelism?
- Discuss the following passages that emphasize the transformative power of having the mind of Christ through the Holy Spirit. Read: Philippians 2:2-5, Romans 12:2.