**The Foolishness of God – Part 3**

The keys to proclaiming the biblical gospel.

**Text**: **1 Corinthians 2:1-5**, “And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. **2**For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. **3**And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, **4**and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, **5**so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” **English Standard Version**

*When it comes to proclaiming the gospel*…

**Point #1**: **Avoid** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! **v.1**

*When it comes to proclaiming the gospel*…

**Point #2**: **Anchor** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! **v.2**

*When it comes to proclaiming the gospel*…

**Point #3**: **Acknowledge** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! **vv.3-5**

**Corollary Verses**: Acts 18:-1-11; 2 Timothy 4:1-4; Romans 1:18; 2 Corinthian 5:21; Zechariah 4:6; Exodus 4:10-11; Jeremiah 1:6; and 2 Corinthians 11:5-6.

**Application Questions**  
These questions are provided for your further study and application of today’s sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to the questions listed below will assist you in gaining a better understanding of the point of this passage. Please be prepared to discuss your answers with your Home Fellowship Groups.

1.) When sharing the gospel, have you ever been tempted to soften the offense of the bad news? Did you rearrange the order of the message? Did you try to sell them on the fact that their life would be better? In what ways did you change or alter the message and why?

2.) Read **Acts 17:22-34**, here Paul presents the good news to the Athenians. What was first biblical truth about God that Paul presented when sharing the gospel? (Hint) look at **verse 24** how does Paul describe God? What right does God have over his creatures/creation? Why is this so important to share with people who have very little knowledge of God? Why is this the first place to begin when presenting the gospel message?

3.) Read **2 Timothy 4:1-4** and then answer the following questions. When preaching the word of God (sharing the gospel), why is it important to engage in the negative aspects of reproving and rebuking those who are listening to the message? As salvation history continues towards the Second Coming of Christ, Paul says that people will no longer endure sound teaching. Do you believe that this has already come? If so explain why, give some examples.

4.) Read **Isaiah 53:4-5**; and **Acts 2:14-38** then answer the following questions. In the Isaiah passage, what aspects of the gospel are found in this passage? Then in the Acts 2 passage, Write out the main points in the progression of the gospel message. Why didn’t Peter start off with God as Creator when sharing the gospel? What other gospel elements did you identify in this passage?

5.) Read **Exodus 4:10-11**; **Jeremiah 1:6**; and **2 Corinthians 11:5-6** then answer the following questions. How do you feel when you discover that God uses imperfect people? If these three mighty men of God had speech impediments, yet God still used them, what excuse do you still have?