

Text: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5  
Topic: Wisdom. Evangelism.  
Study: First Corinthians  
Week: 13  
Series: 4 of 5

Focal Point Radio Ministries  
September 21 & 22, 2002  
Message # 02-27  
Pastor Mike

# Head Games <sup>part 4</sup>

*Being Wise When the World Calls You Stupid*



1. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ (v.1a)

2. Stick \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.1b-2)

3. Know \_\_\_\_\_ (v.3)

4. Watch \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.4-5)

1 Cor. 2:1-5

*<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God.*

*<sup>2</sup> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power. (NIV)*

# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.*

1. What feelings do you experience after having shared the message of Christ with someone who "just doesn't get it?"

In what ways have you tried to water down the message of the cross hoping to make it more palatable?

In what other ways have you tried to "help God out" in your attempts to present the gospel?

2. How common do you think it is that Christians unwittingly "make converts" to someone or something other than to Christ? Describe how this may happen.

Read 1 Corinthians 1:30 and 2 Corinthians 5:17-18a. Have you known anyone who has been intellectually "talked into Christianity" or emotionally "manipulated into Christianity" but was obviously never transformed by God's Spirit? What kind of problems does this create for the church and the watching world?

3. What "anxious" or "fear based" excuses have you used for not sharing the message of Christ? (e.g., "I don't have all the answers," "I can't think fast on my feet," etc.)

In light of our passage in 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, why is it foolish for us to be limited by these self-assessments?

*We are reading through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.*

**Sunday**  
*Is. 49-50 & 2Cor. 8*  
**Monday**  
*Is. 51-52 & 2Cor. 9*  
**Tuesday**  
*Is. 53-54 & 2Cor. 10*  
**Wednesday**  
*Is. 55-56 & 2Cor. 11*  
**Thursday**  
*Is. 57-58 & 2Cor. 12*  
**Friday**  
*Is. 59-60 & 2Cor. 13*  
**Saturday**  
*Is. 61-62 & Gal. 1*

*Here are some resources to help you understand the nature of the gospel and how it ought to be presented.*

Bruce, F. F. ***The Defense of the Gospel in the New Testament, revised edition.*** Eerdmans, 1977.  
Carson, D. A. ***Telling the Truth: Evangelizing Postmoderns.*** Zondervan, 2000.  
Chantry, Walter J. ***Today's Gospel: Authentic or Synthetic?*** Banner of Truth, 1970.  
Cocoris, Michael G. ***Evangelism: A Biblical Approach.*** Moody Press, 1984.  
Craig, William Lane. ***Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics.*** Crossway Books, 1994.  
Geisler, Norman L. ***Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics.*** Baker Books, 1999.  
MacArthur, John. ***The Gospel According to Jesus, revised edition.*** Zondervan, 1994.  
Metzger, Will. ***Tell The Truth: The Whole Gospel to the Whole Person by Whole People.*** InterVarsity, 1984.  
Wilson, Bill, ed. ***A Ready Defense: The Best of Josh McDowell.*** Thomas Nelson, 1993.