

Scripture this week:

1 Corinthians 3:18-23

¹⁸ Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. ¹⁹ For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness," ²⁰ and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile." ²¹ So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, ²³ and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

Stinking Rich

1 Corinthians 3:18-23

Todd Chapman - March 14, 2021

Paul continues to encourage us to genuinely and deeply experience and then more accurately and fully display Jesus' love in a way that delights God. What keeps us from more abundantly enjoying God's design for our lives? What will help us?

What keeps us from more abundantly enjoying God's design for our lives?

The primary obstacle: Our being self-deceived.

What helps us more abundantly experience God's design for our lives?

The Solution: Our fully grasping all we have in Jesus.

Notes:

Life Group Discussion Questions

Based on 1 Corinthians 3:18-23

Getting Started

1. Share a time when you swore you knew the way to get to a location but, in the end, you got lost.
2. Have you ever recognized that you were actually being self-deceived (that is, you were either intentionally or unintentionally lying to yourself)?
3. What are some practices that you have found useful to help you not give in to self-deception?

Digging into the Text

4. Read 1 Corinthians 3:18-23 and respond:
 - In v. 18, explain what Paul means by the statement "*let him become a fool that he may become wise.*" How is self-deception at the core of people's wrong thinking?
 - How is God's wisdom different than worldly wisdom?
 - Why does Paul not want the Corinthians (or us) to boast in men in v. 21?
 - How does realizing that "*all things*" are ours as Christians help solve the problem that the Corinthians were having of elevating humans too much?
 - Summarize what the author is saying in this text.

Applying It to My Life

5. Is there an area of your life where you'd recognize that you're prone to self-deception?
6. Who are the people in your life who you allow to call you out if they see you going astray?
7. How can the group be praying for you as we all desire to grow in more fully realizing and appreciating all that we have in Christ?