"Nonsense, Part 3 (The Resolve of the Cross)"

Sunday, February 18, 2024, 10:30 a.m. Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI Pastor Jonathan DeCou *1 Corinthians 2:1-5*

BIG IDEA: What difference does the Cross make?

"I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." 1 Corinthians 2:2 (CSB)

- The Cross <u>determines</u> my <u>message</u>. (v1-2)
 - o Make God famous!

The Cross <u>determines</u> my <u>method</u>. (v3-4)

- **Depend** on the <u>Holy Spirit</u>!
- The Cross <u>determines</u> my <u>motive</u>. (v5)
 - o <u>Trust</u> God's <u>power</u>!

BIG IDEA: What difference does the Cross make?

READ: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

THINK: Consider Paul's continued message about the Cross of Jesus Christ, then ask yourself these questions: What is the substance of "the mystery" Paul announced to the Corinthians? Why did Paul not "copycat" the Greek-Roman philosophers and professional public speakers in their rhetoric or style? What does Paul mean by saying he "decided to know nothing among [the Corinthians] except Jesus Christ and him crucified"? Why is Paul's focus on the Cross of Christ so important, especially for the wider audience in Corinth? Why and how do you suppose Paul was weak, fearful, and trembling when he came to Corinth to preach the message of the Gospel? How was the Holy Spirit manifest in the ministry and message of the Apostle Paul? What does Paul mean by encouraging the Corinthian believers to base their faith on God's power?

DO: Resolve to allow the Cross of Jesus Christ to dominate your thinking, words, and conduct this week.