

Excuse Me, But are we nuts?!

(Sermon Notes: 1 Cor 1:18-31)

Today is the third Sunday in Lent. From our Epistle reading today, we see that many people believe we are crazy for believing in Jesus. How did St Paul answer those people? How should we answer them today?

St. Paul talks about two types of people who believe Christianity is foolish. The first type asks for s_____ from heaven, the second type seeks only h_____ wisdom (1 Cor 1:22)



I. St Paul addressed these types of people by...

1. mentioning N_____ Revelation which includes the nature of C_____ and also our human need for j_____. (Romans 1:18-20; Romans 2:14,15)
2. mentioning S_____ Revelation, which is God specifically revealing himself in His W_____ (scripture) as in 1 Cor 1:21; Hebrews 1:1-2; and 2 Timothy 3:16.

II. We can answer critics by:

1. Realize the world will never come to God through h_____ reason alone (1 Cor 2:14)
2. It's not about winning the arg_____, but its about J_____ and sharing His l_____. (1 Cor 13:2; John 3:16)
3. Share truths about N_____ Revelation (intelligent design/Nature)
4. Share the L_____ and care of G_____ from the B_____ (Specific Revelation)

III. What can you do when you wonder if you are crazy for believing in Jesus?

1. Look at the c_____ all around you.
2. Pick up your B_____ and R_____ it. When you are thirsty, you go to where you can find water. When you are spiritually dry, you go to the water of God's Word so you can quench that thirst.
3. Be h_____ with God and other C_____ that you trust concerning your feelings.
4. Tell S_____ to "G__ L__!" like Jesus did in Matthew 4:10

What four truths summarize all of this for us?
(See the back of this if you are wondering)

Four Truths from this Lesson:

1. Look at the complexity around us (Natural Revelation)
2. Look at how God revealed Himself to us specifically in the Bible (Special Revelation)
3. Be honest about your feelings (God/other Christians)
4. Remember: John 3:16/I Cor 13—It's all about God's Love for us and others

You might have more questions. You might need some more encouragement. We would like to suggest you check out the following that might help:

For information on Natural Revelation—

The Discovery Institute, <http://discoverycsc.org/> This web site simply declares that the evidence from nature cries out for intelligent design

The institute for Creation Research, <http://www.icr.org/> and Answers in Genesis, <http://www.answersingenesis.org/> These web sites are blatantly Christian. You should know that up front.

For information on Special Revelation:

Christ Lutheran Church <http://christlansing.com> We have downloads and information of all sorts to assist with your journey of discovery.

LCMS FAQ pages, <http://www.lcms.org/pages/internal.asp?NavID=2039>
Here are some great, short answers to questions many have had concerning the Bible.

www.whoisjesus-really.com: great site to explore the basics about Jesus.

www.ivpress.com/questioningfaith/resources: great list of topics/questions of all sorts about the Christian faith with links to answers.

Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong,
They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus Loves me. Yes, Jesus Loves me.
Yes, Jesus Loves me. The Bible tells me so.