**A DEMONSTRATION OF THE SPIRIT’S POWER**

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Key Verses 2:4-5

*“My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God’s power.”*

1. Read verses 1-2. What did Paul avoid while proclaiming his message in Corinth? What was his resolution? What was at the heart of his gospel message? How can we imitate Paul in preaching the gospel in our time?
2. Read verses 3-5. When he came to the Corinthians what was going through Paul’s mind and heart? What did he depend on? What is the result of a message delivered in the power of the Spirit (Refer to Ac 2:37; 16:14; 18:7,8)? What should our faith ultimately rest on?
3. Read verses 6-9. To whom did Paul speak a message of wisdom? How is God’s wisdom different from the world’s and in what respects is it mystery? Why did the rulers of this age not understand it and what was the consequence? To whom does God reveal it?
4. Read verses 10-12. What does the Spirit do? What has God freely given us? How can we understand these things?
5. Read verses 13-16. What gave Paul such confidence in speaking about such things (13)? What special privileges are enjoyed by a person with the Spirit? What can we learn about the importance of relying on the gospel message itself and the Spirit’s power in understanding and preaching the gospel?