

DIGGING DEEPER

Series: Hymns for him
Sermon: **The Old Rugged Cross**
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:17-31



GETTING STARTED

Describe a time when you had trouble communicating your faith to someone else because they were so steeped in their traditions of faith that they weren't open to listening to you OR because they viewed themselves as so intellectual or enlightened that they didn't want to hear what you had to say.

BIBLE STUDY

1. Read Isaiah 53:3-10. How does this passage affirm that the cross would be an “emblem of suffering and shame”?
2. In 1 Corinthians 1:17, Paul emphasizes that the message he preached was from God, not originating from human wisdom. In what way would preaching from “human wisdom” empty the cross of its power?
3. In what way is the cross “foolish” to the unbelieving world?
4. Write your own paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 1:25.
5. Read 1 Corinthians 1:31. How can the cross (and all that the cross signifies to a believer) result in boasting “in the Lord”?
6. Read John 12:32-33. In what way did Jesus' death on the cross “draw all men” to Him?

APPLY IT

The cross was a symbol of self-denial and sacrifice. When one “took up his cross” in Bible times, it was a whole-hearted commitment. Consider ways in which you can “take up your cross” as a demonstration of your dedication to the cause of Christ. What “shame” or “reproach” might be involved in such a manifestation of commitment to Him?