

**I. Paul's Testimony about God.**

- A. Paul was an intelligent man; he could have impressed people with his eloquence and wisdom but he didn't (v.1).**
- B. Paul's message was simple – he told people about Christ and the cross (v.2).**
- C. Paul trembled at the thought of sharing his faith (v.3).**
- D. Paul gained victory over his fear by relying on the power of the Holy Spirit (v.4,5).**
  - 1. There is power within all followers of Jesus, just waiting to be used – the power of the Holy Spirit.**
  - 2. We need to “plug in” to this power ...we need to yield to the indwelling Holy Spirit and rely on him.**
- E. In the power of the Spirit, Paul spoke the simple truth about the crucified Christ and people got saved.**
- F. Followers of Jesus are called to make disciples; there are four parts to the disciple-making process (see Matt. 28:19,20): 1) invite others to accept Christ; 2) baptize those who accept Christ; 3) teach believers what Christ taught; and 4) exhort believers to obey Christ.**

**II. God's Secret Wisdom (v.6,7).**

- A. The simple gospel message of Christ is the message that brings people to Christ (see Rom. 10:17), but life in Christ doesn't end there.**
- B. Every Christians is expected t go beyond his/her saving knowledge of Christ and seek the deeper truths of God – “God's secret wisdom” (v.7).**
- C. In the Early Church there were two basic types of preaching/teaching.**
  - 1. Kerygma – announced the simple truths of the faith (the life, death, and resurrection of Christ); evangelistic in nature.**
  - 2. Didache – explained the meaning of the truths of the faith; expositional in nature.**
- D. To grow in Christ you need to get serious about reading and studying the Bible.**
- E. The best way to learn the Bible is by getting involved in a small group Bible study.**
- F. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your mind and heart, dig deep into the Word of God, and you will grow in Christ.**