



Week #4 Leader's Guide – May 1, 2016

Straight Talk: Bold Letters to the Corinthians
SDBC Community Groups

“Spirit Empowered Community”

Key Passage:

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

6 Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. 7 But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him” —

10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. 14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. 16 “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

1. Read the key passage.
2. In v.10, Paul says the wisdom of God—a secret and hidden wisdom—is revealed to us through the Holy Spirit. How has the Holy Spirit revealed truth in your life?
3. Verses 10 and 11 imply that we cannot comprehend the thoughts of God—thus we cannot please God unless we have the Spirit of God. And then Paul goes on to say in verse 12 that we do have the Spirit of God, which implies that we should know how to please God. How do you know how to please God?
4. In v. 15, when Paul says, “The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one,” he doesn’t mean that we are not to be held accountable. Rather, he means that we should be so filled with the Holy Spirit that we shouldn’t need to be judged by people who do not have the Spirit of God. Why should we not be judged by people who do not have the Spirit of God?
5. Your community group should be a place where you can find Spirit filled people who can help you discern God’s will. Do you find your community group to be like this?
6. When someone gives you spiritual counselling or advice, how can you make sure that the advice is indeed God’s will? (Read Acts 17:11).
7. As a community group, each and every one of you have the responsibility to grow in engaging with God’s Word (Bible) and regularly praying so that you can discern God’s will. How can you hold one another accountable to become a Holy Spirit filled community group?
8. Read Luke 24:48-49. The promise of the Father and the power from on high are referring to the Holy Spirit. What does this verse tell us about the relationship between being on mission for God and having the Holy Spirit?
8. Why is it important to have the Spirit of God when we’re doing His work?