

God's Ways: Us Against the World

(1 Corinthians 1:18-31)

Opening Discussion: Have you ever worried about whether God could use a person like you? How much do you struggle with what the world thinks of you? How much do you struggle with what God thinks of you?

Transformational Principle: We must _____ that the world's ways are at _____ with the ways of God.

1. **Main Point #1 – Christianity is by its very nature _____ to those who are _____ of it.**
(1 Corinthians 1: ___ - ___)

For further discussion: What does Paul say about how the world views the ways of God? What do you think of what Paul has to say? (2 Corinthians 2:15-16: What does Paul add to the teaching about how different people react to the gospel? What are the reactions you have had to things you've read in the Bible? What are the reactions you've seen from other people?)

Notes:

2. **Main Point #2 - The _____ is an equal opportunity _____.**
(1 Corinthians 1: ___ - ___)

For further discussion: How does Paul describe the different ways people are offended by the gospel? It comes down to a desire for supernatural signs and having it explained so it makes perfect sense. Where would you say you fall in Paul's examples? (See Matthew 13:53-58: How does Jesus' experience in Nazareth shed light on what Paul is talking about? Why were they offended by Jesus in His hometown? What are some things people are offended by when it comes to the Bible? How can Paul's words help us share the gospel?)

Notes:

3. **Main Point #3 - God's _____ are not our _____.**
(1 Corinthians 1: ___ - ___)

For further discussion: How would you describe Paul's outlook on the world? What makes God's ways so much better than the world's? (Isaiah 55:8-9: How does the Apostle Paul build off of what God spoke through Isaiah hundreds of years beforehand? Why do you think that this is so hard for people (even Christians) to fully understand and live out on a regular basis? Does anything need to be transformed in your life to make this shift?)

Notes:

Response: Have you accepted any worldly _____ or practices that God is calling you to _____?

