

# SERMON NOTES

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent, Year B \* March 7, 2021

Sermon by the Reverend Tom Rutherford

Exodus 20:1-17 \* Psalm 19 \* 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 \* John 2:13-22

## Dumb Enough to Believe

### 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.

✦ “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in 3 days.” John 2:19

For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

✦ G\_\_\_\_. L\_\_\_\_ your enemies. Pick up your C\_\_\_\_. L\_\_\_\_ your life...

Jews demands signs, and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

### Next Week's Lessons

Numbers 21:4-9 \* Psalm 107:1-22 \* Ephesians 2:1-10 \* John 3:14-21

# Chewing on Our Daily Bread

Questions for conversation with your family, Home Group, or a friend

1. What is something dumb (not about God) you believed as a child? What caused you to quit believing it?
2. What is something about God you found or find hard to believe, because it sounds foolish? How do you deal with that?
3. What is something Jesus said or did, that you found or find hard to believe or follow, because it sounds foolish? How do you deal with it?
4. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 says, “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.” How have you experienced the “power of God” through the “message of the cross” – through something about Jesus you’ve chosen to believe?
5. PRAY:
  - ✦ Thanking God for helping you believe stuff about him, that, on the surface, sounds foolish.
  - ✦ For grace to accept and believe even more “foolishness” about God in order to experience more “power of God.”
  - ✦ For any needs in your group.