



# The Foundation for Faith and Growth

1 CORINTHIANS 2



# The Foundation for Faith and Growth

- ▶ THEME: Spiritual life and growth are produced through God's revelation and power alone; never from from human wisdom or technique.



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## The Foundation of the Corinthian's Faith (1-5)

- ▶ Paul's approach to gospel ministry (1a)
- ▶ The source of Paul's message to the Corinthians (1b)
- ▶ The content of Paul's message (2)
- ▶ Paul's attitude (3)
- ▶ Paul stuck to the gospel message, relying on God's Spirit alone (4)
- ▶ Paul's motivation: to exalt the power of God (5)



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## The Foundation of All Spiritual Knowledge: the Wisdom of God through His Spirit (6-16)

- ▶ True wisdom from God's Spirit was the source of Paul's teaching (6-9)
  - ▶ He did indeed speak wisdom (6a)
  - ▶ His audience (6b)
  - ▶ The wisdom he offered was not the wisdom of men (6c)
  - ▶ Paul taught the wisdom of God (7)
  - ▶ God's wisdom was not understood by those in authority (8-9)



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## The Foundation of All Spiritual Knowledge: the Wisdom of God through His Spirit (6-16)

- ▶ True wisdom from God's Spirit was the source of Paul's teaching (6-9)
- ▶ The process of God's revelation (10-13)
  - ▶ God's revelation is accomplished through His Spirit (10a)
  - ▶ The Spirit knows God's every thought (10b-11)
  - ▶ The transmission of the Spirit's revelation (12-13)



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## The Foundation of All Spiritual Knowledge: the Wisdom of God through His Spirit (6-16)

- ▶ True wisdom from God's Spirit was the source of Paul's teaching (6-9)
- ▶ The process of God's revelation (10-13)
- ▶ God's revelation cannot be understood by everyone (14-16)



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## Implications & Application

1. Salvation and spiritual growth are entirely a work of the Lord through His Spirit. Therefore it makes no sense to exalt the importance of men, who are merely messengers conveying the truth of what God has done and what God has said.
2. Praise God that we are saved by His Spirit and His power alone and that all the glory is His!
3. Thank God for His revelation to us – the precious gift of His inspired Word providing us with all we need to know.



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## Implications & Application

4. Thank God for His Spirit, who grants us the illumination we need to understand the Bible.
5. Praise God that our task in evangelism is simply to offer a clear presentation of the gospel which God will use to change hearts by His power. We are not called to develop clever techniques using eloquent speech or persuasive words!