

The Word of the Cross
(1 Corinthians 1:18-31)

The "Word of the Cross" –

- to the unbeliever... "foolishness" – 1 Cor 1:18
- to the religious... "scandalous" – 1 Cor 1:23
- to the saved... "the power of God" – 1 Cor 1:24
- = all "rightness" is by His doing – 1 Cor 1:30

The Word of the Cross Fully Reveals the Nature of God – Jo 1:18; Heb 1:3; Col 1:15

- Proclaims God as a lover – Jo 3:16; Ro 5:8-10
 - ...we see God's holy passion for oneness – Jo 17:2-24
 - (Beware of any "word" that makes you self indulgent!)
- Proclaims God as liberator – Acts 13:39; Ga 5:1
 - ...the cross "does" and "undoes": _____
 - (Beware of any "word" that makes you self-conscious!)
- Proclaims God as life-giver – Jo 1:4,12; 11:25-26; 10:10
 - ...God offers His life to us – Mk 10:45; Col 1:27; 3:4
 - (Beware of any "word" that inhibits the free flow of His life to and in and through you!)

The Word of the Cross Fully Reveals the Nature of God's People –

- Proclaims we are all His always being loved children – Jo 17:23
 - ...we are being loved into being – II Cor 5:14
 - ...Christians will never thrive in fear – 1 Jo 4:18; Ga 4:9; Heb 4:13
 - (Focus more on God's love for us than our love for God!)
- Proclaims we are all His fully liberated children – II Cor 3:17; Ga 5:1
 - ...freed from all that did not come from God: severing power of the cross – Acts 13:39
 - ...freed for all that pertains to godly living: enabling power of the resurrection – II Pet 1:3,4
 - ...Christians will never thrive on "fiction" – Jo 8:31-32
 - (Focus on speaking the truth to ourselves!) – Jo 8:36
- Proclaims we are all His abundantly alive children – Jo 10:10
 - ...we are born again fully supplied – Eph 1:3; Col 2:9-10
 - ...Christians will never thrive as "fugitives" – Lk 15:31
 - ...Christ is our needs met – Phil 4:19; Ga 5:22-23
 - (Focus on His adequacy, not our inadequacy – II Cor 3:4-6)