

# **DIRTY** CHURCH

## **Dr. Jeff Bucknam**

### **1 Corinthians 1:18–2:5**

**1. What do you find are the hardest parts of the Bible to believe? Was there a time when you thought much of it was foolish? What changed your mind (if you have changed your mind)?**

---

---

**2. If the message about the cross was so objectionable to most Romans and Jews in the first century, why did Paul insist on continuing to preach it unchanged? How does his attitude influence how we approach the objectionable parts of the Christian message in our society?**

---

---

**3. What are the most objectionable parts of the Christian message in our society today? How do those objections change depending on the people to whom you are proclaiming the message? What issues to the elites in our society have? What issues do rural people have? What issues (if any) are unique to African American people or African people or Asian people or white people?**

---

---

**4. Why do so many Christian people want to be well regarded by the intelligent elites in our society? Should we be seeking to be well regarded by them? Why or why not?**

---

---

**5. Do you agree with Paul's assessment that God has chosen the weak things of the world to be in the family of God? Why or why not? What does he mean by "weak"?**

---

---

**6. How and why do Christians try to present themselves as "having it all together" when they are defined by their weakness? What specifically would it look like for the church to embrace, welcome, and promote weakness instead of strength? Is this something you have seen some churches do? Why or why not? How?**

---

---

**7. One of the key points of the sermon (drawn from Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 2:1–5) was that "What we win people with is what we win them to". Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not? If you agree, what kinds of things do we try to win people to Christ with that ultimately get in the way of them following Jesus for all their days? What kinds of things should we avoid for fear of it resulting in people depending "on the wisdom of men and not the power of God"?**

---

---

**Cross references used in the sermon: 2 Corinthians 4:2-4**