

1 Cor. 2:1-5

1Co 2:1 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom.

1Co 2:2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

1Co 2:3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling,

1Co 2:4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

1Co 2:5 so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Do you know the difference? Many people know a lot about Jesus. Many know the stories, but do not know the story. The what without the who is powerless. Paul's message about Jesus did not depend on fancy words and the wisdom of catchy words.

Paul felt exposed, weak, fearful. Would challenging people to know Jesus be enough? Is the gospel God's salvation power? Paul knew the Jesus who had changed his life. He could speak of no one and nothing else. "Here is what I know! Here is the message I know. Jesus and him crucified."

Can we believe it? The message of who Jesus is, THE story, was so powerful that the Spirit was seen and faith found foundations – not in the knowledge humans often pursue but in God's power – knowing Jesus.

The faith that I received from my mother and grandmother found root and flourished almost six decades ago. I am still pursuing the Jesus who pursues me. I want to know Jesus.