

# Lent 2024

## *In Search of Wisdom*

March 3, 2024

**Lectionary Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Lent:**  
Exodus 20v1-17; Psalm 19;  
1 Corinthians 1v18-25; John 2v13-22

Where do you turn for wisdom? To what extent, if any, do you live under the assumption there is a God who wants to lead you into His wisdom? To what extent do you assume God's wisdom and your intuitions are often very different? What role do the Scriptures play in your life? How experienced are you at seeking wise counsel?

Tone matters.

The difference between a person seeking God's wisdom via the Bible, and mean spirited Bible following.

**Exodus 20v1-3**  
Then God spoke all these words:  
I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

Can you think of an example from your past when you sought God's wisdom, it cost you something, and yet following it has paid off?

**Psalm 19v7-10**  
The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;  
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;  
  
the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;  
  
the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring for ever;  
the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.  
  
More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.

1 Corinthians 1v18-25  
For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,  
  
'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'  
  
Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

To the extent we're after God's wisdom, what's the insight brought about by Jesus' death on the cross?

**Books:** *Lent* by Esau McCaulley  
**Songs:** What a Beautiful Name, Holy Forever, As You Find Me, Rescue, Splinters and Stones,  
**Looking to Connect?:** One of the staff would love to meet for a walk, on the phone, or for a beverage. To schedule a time please visit our website and click on the "Meet with Staff" button on the home page.