

MESSAGE NOTES

The glory of God in the face of Christ

INTRODUCTION - *A safety shower*

SERMON SERIES

*A Study of 2 Corinthians -
Bridezilla Returns*

Last week - 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

This week - 2 Corinthians 4:5-6

2 Corinthians 4:5

5For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

Paul's ongoing defense of his ministry

- 2 Cor. 1:6, 1:12, 1:16-17, 1:23
- 2 Cor. 2:4, 2:10-11, 2:16-17
- 2 Cor. 3:1-2, 3:5
- 2 Cor. 4:1, 4:2, 4:5

Renouncing all shadiness

As a church - no bait and switch

With the Bible -

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Connection #1 - Genesis 1:1-3

Shone in our hearts - REGENERATION -
Titus 3:4-7

Connection #2 - 4:4 and 4:6

The Gospel What and So What

Gospel Application

Do you SEE the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ? Has the light SHONE in your heart to give light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ?

Scripture Passages

(taken from the English Standard Version)

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

3And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

5For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. 6For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Genesis 1:1-3

1In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 3And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

Titus 3:4-7

4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.





A STUDY OF 2 CORINTHIANS



BRIDEZILLA RETURNS

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IN COLOR



LAST WEEK

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

THIS WEEK

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

“It ain’t about us.”

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

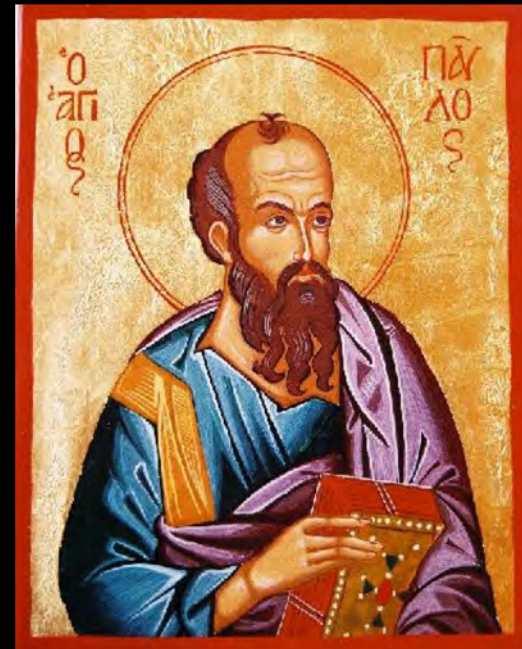
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Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In suffering – his and theirs

2 Corinthians 1:6

If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer.

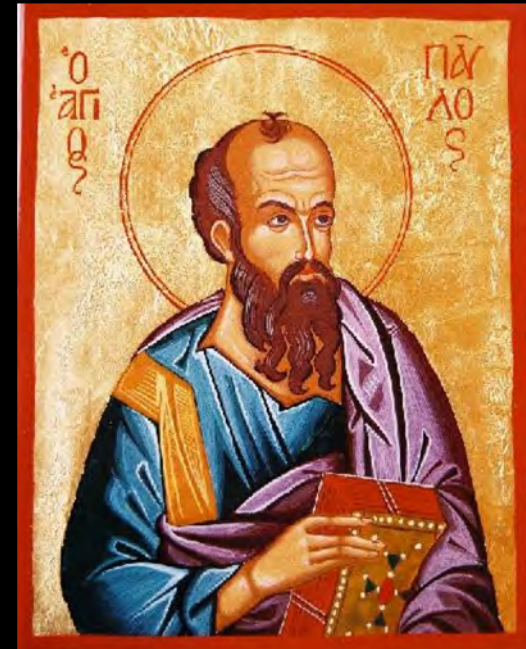


Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In simple, godly living toward them

2 Corinthians 1:12

For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you.

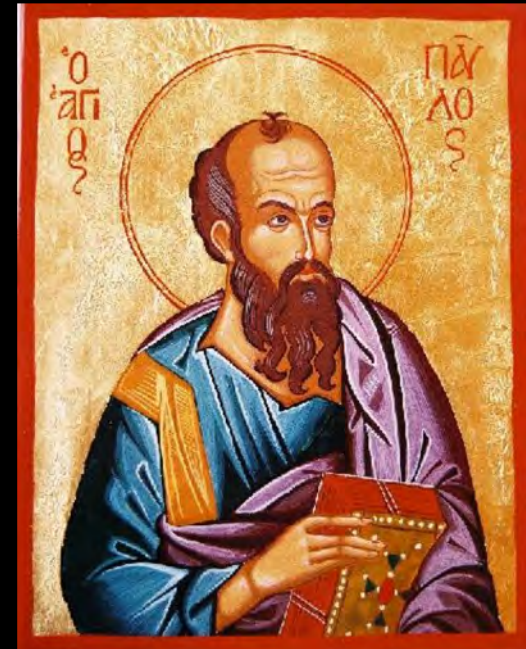


Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In refraining to visit them

2 Corinthians 1:16-17, 23

I wanted to visit you on my way to Macedonia, and to come back to you from Macedonia and have you send me on my way to Judea. Was I vacillating when I wanted to do this?... But I call God to witness against me — it was to spare you that I refrained from coming again to Corinth.

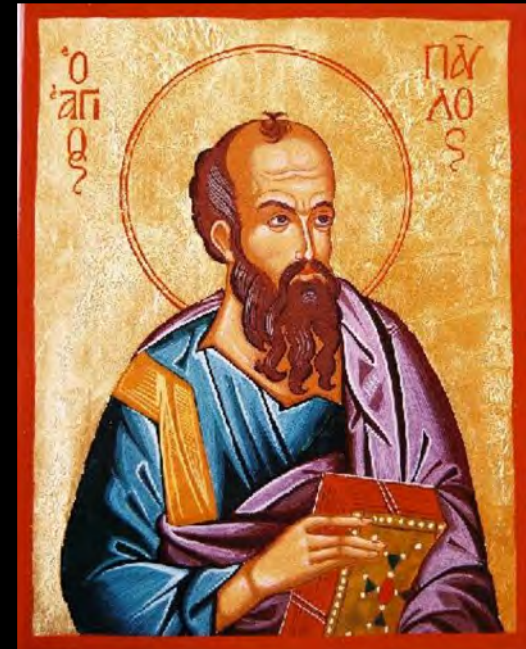


Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In writing to them

2 Corinthians 2:4

For I wrote to you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

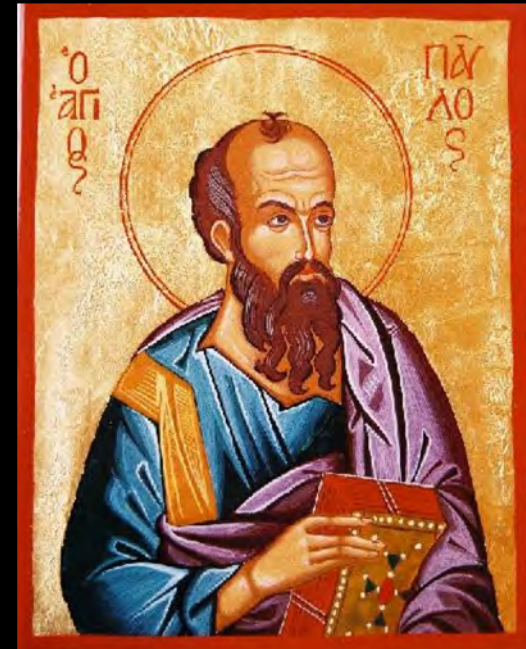


Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In choosing forgiveness for their sake

2 Corinthians 2:10-11

Indeed, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.

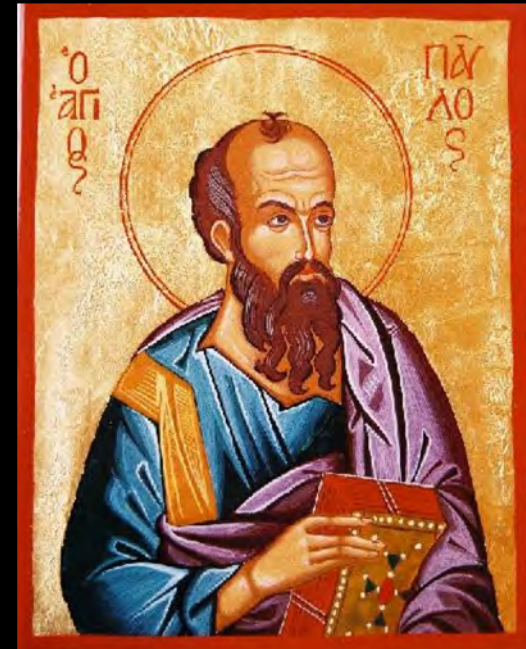


Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In preaching and teaching

2 Corinthians 2:16-17

Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

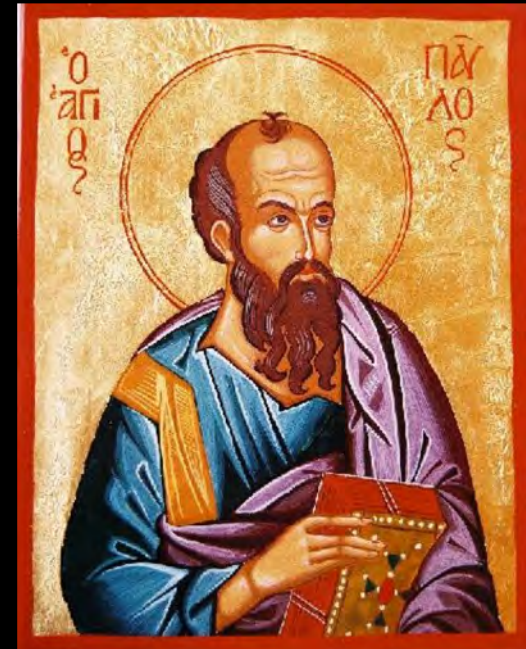


Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In sufficiency from God

2 Corinthians 3:1, 2, 5

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again?...You yourselves are our letter of recommendation...Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God...

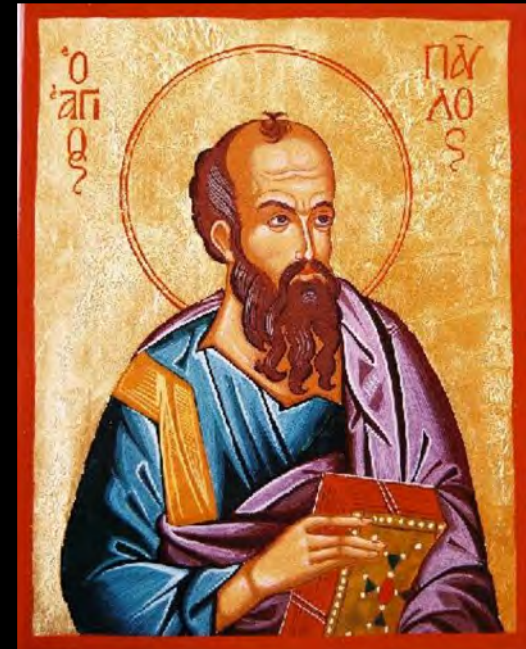


LAST WEEK

Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

*In reminding them it's God's
ministry 2 Corinthians 4:1*

Therefore, having this ministry by the
mercy of God, we do not lose heart.



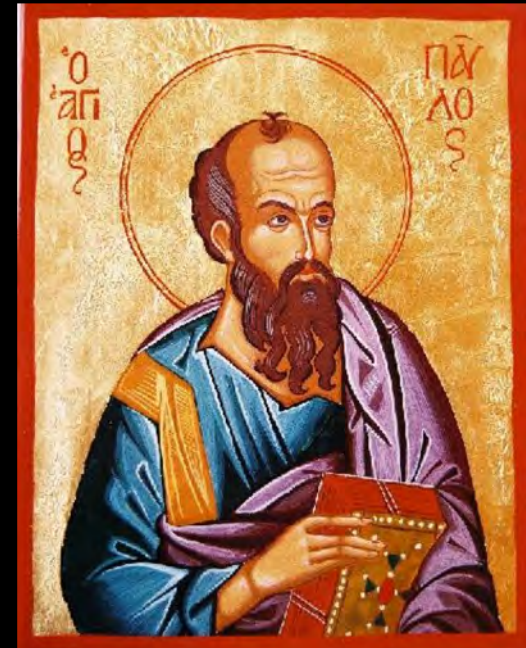
LAST WEEK

Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In renouncing shadiness

2 Corinthians 4:2

But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.



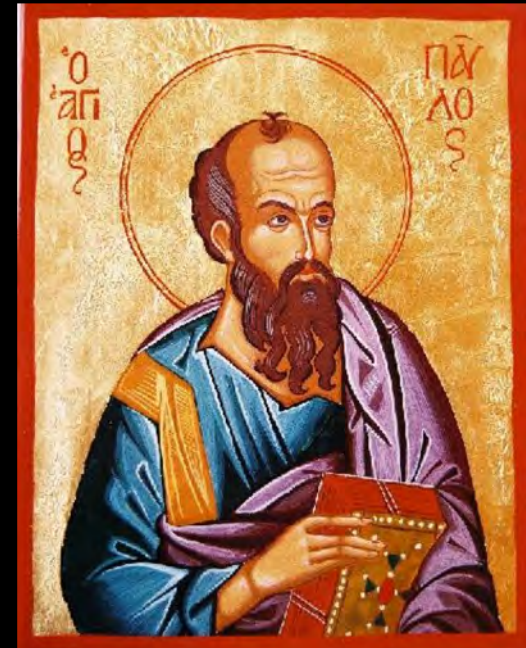
LAST WEEK

Paul's ongoing defense of ministry

In renouncing himself!

2 Corinthians 4:5

⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.



In renouncing shadiness



In renouncing shadiness

1. No bait and switch with Hope



In renouncing shadiness

1. No bait and switch with Hope
2. With God's word



2 Corinthians 4:5-6

⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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CONNECTION #1

Genesis 1:1-3

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.



2 Corinthians 4:5-6

⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," *has shone in our hearts* to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.



ILLUMINATION

Your heart knows only darkness, for in pure darkness it resides.
And should the light ever touch your heart, that probably
means you're in deep doo doo – thoracically speaking.

⁵For what
Christ as
Jesus' sake
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, but Jesus
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REGENERATION!

Titus 3:4-7

4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, *by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit*, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

CONNECTION #2

2 Corinthians 4:4, 6

⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

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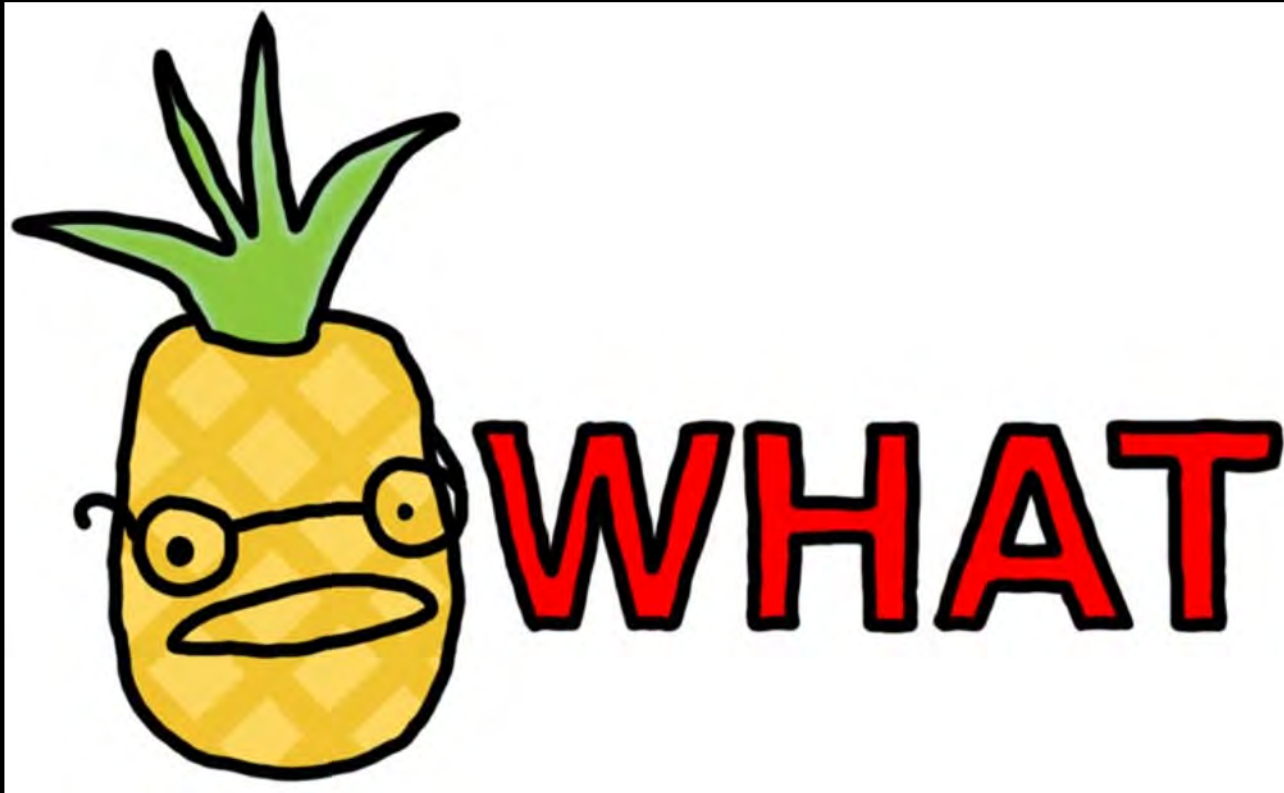
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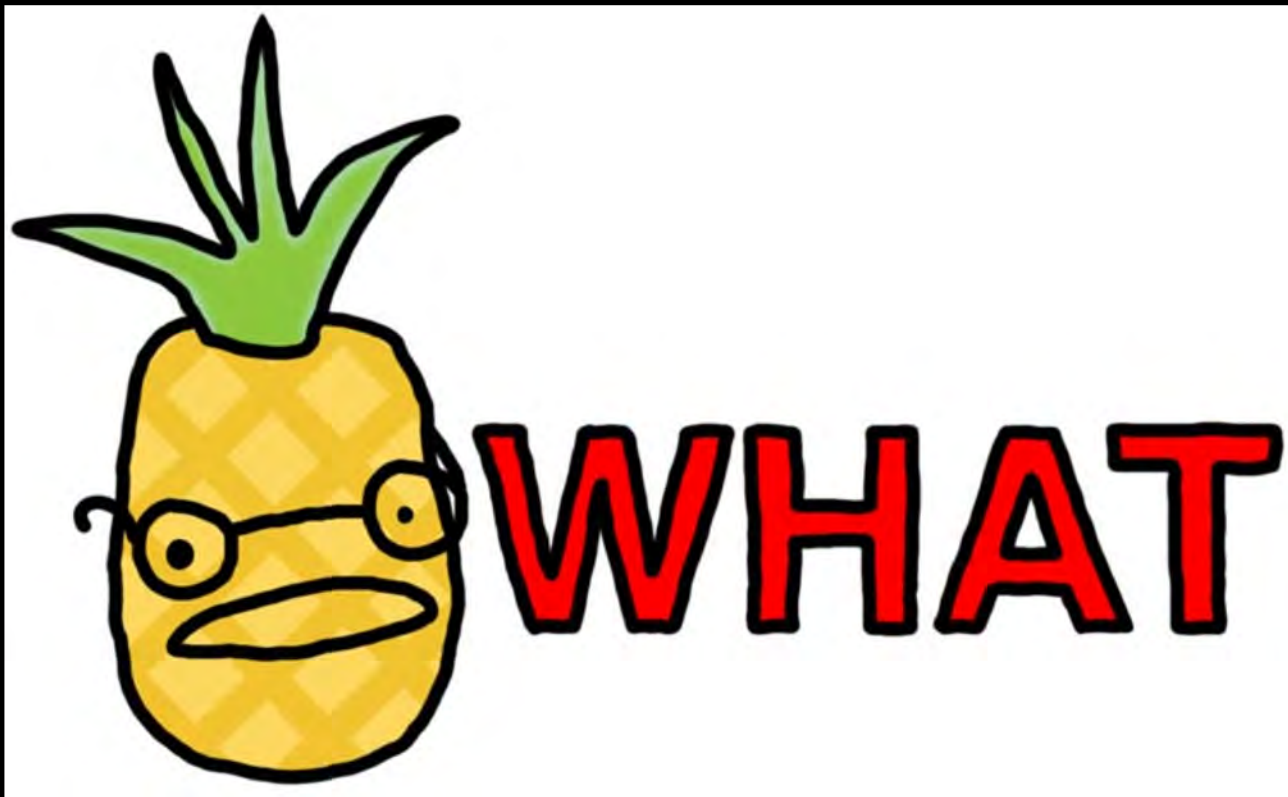
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SO WHAT?

The Gospel What

1 Corinthians 15:3-7

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.



The Gospel So What

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

SO WHAT?

An example of the The Gospel So What in action

Matthew 5:14-16

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

SO WHAT?

The Gospel So What

Has the light SHONE in your heart to give light of the
knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ?

The Gospel So What

Has the light SHONE in your heart to give light of the
knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ?

Do you – *today* – SEE the light of the gospel
of the glory of Christ?

The Gospel So What

Has the light SHONE in your heart to give light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ?

Do you – *today* – SEE the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ?

Are you willing to SHARE this light with others?