

Partner with the Holy Spirit

There is a common lie we can believe that the moments we risk in witness to others depends on our own capabilities — that if we just have the *right* words and the *right* delivery, *then* people will believe. But Paul suggests something different in this passage — that the real power isn't found in ourselves, but in *who* we partner with: God himself. And that there is a way for people to discover the life with God that rests beyond argument and persuasion, and on the Living God himself.

Read 1 Corinthians 2v1-5

SESSION 03 — BONUS CONVERSATION

Discuss the Scripture

- 01 What stories of witnessing do you know of, whether personal or not, where it involved a demonstration of God's power?
- 02 Take note of what Paul actively chose to avoid as he witnessed to the people of Corinth. How does this way of witnessing confront or challenge your understanding or experience of witnessing?
- 03 What comfort do you take in Paul describing his witness to the Corinthian people as "weak" and full of "fear and trembling"? How does this compare to your own experience?
- 04 In what areas of your witness to others do you feel weak or incapable? How might these areas be invitations to depend on God, and for him to demonstrate his power?

Discuss the practice

- 01 Share about what this week's exercise looked like for you, and how it went.
- 02 It's been said that the feeling of being listened to and loved are very similar for the average person. How have you experienced this personally?
- 03 What did you notice happen as you tried to attune yourself to the person and to God in the moment? How was he inviting you to partner with him?
- 04 Why do you think listening is a necessary step for witnessing to others in a timely and effective way?

Repeat the Exercise

For this week, we invite you to repeat the exercise on page 71, or to try the reach exercise there if you have not already.