

# Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday March 19, 2017

Welcome & Announcements

Musical Praise & Worship

Family Prayer

Scripture ..... 1 Corinthians 1:18 – 2:5

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

## MAN'S 'WISDOM' AND GOD'S 'FOLLY'

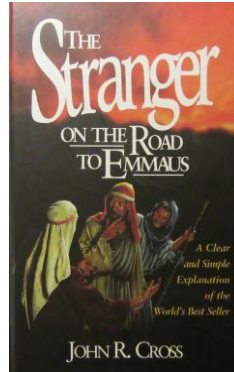
Final Song

Benediction

“To the perishing the cross is folly; and so it is – God’s ‘folly’, which because it is God’s thing turns out to be wiser than human wisdom. In the cross God ‘outsmarted’ his human creatures and thereby nullified that wisdom. In the same cross God also ‘overpowered’ his enemies, with lavish grace and forgiveness, and thereby divested them of their strength. Thus played out before human eyes is the scandalous and contradictory wisdom of God. Had God consulted us for wisdom we could have give him a more workable plan, something that would attract the sign-seeker and the lover of wisdom. As it is, in his own wisdom he left us out of the consultation. We are thus left with the awful risk: trust God and be saved by his wise folly, or keep up our pretensions and perish.”

- Gordon D. Fee

### Featured in the Rosedale Library:



**The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus:** A book that explains the greatest of Bible themes clearly and logically. Who was this man? What was the message? Also includes a 6 -DVD set as well as a companion workbook.

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## Families of the Week

Please remember to pray for and to encourage the following people this week

- Monday** Bertin, Jeanne
- Tuesday** Blanchard, Terry & Pam
- Wednesday** Cerone, Richard & Carole  
Jeremy, Johnathan, Tiffany
- Thursday** Denis, David
- Friday** Denis, Esther
- Saturday** Denis, Gaston & Kiim

# ROSEDALE BAPTIST CHURCH



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

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Welland, ON L3B 1J2  
905-735-0788

Pastor: John C. Bellingham

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## This Week at Rosedale

Tuesday: Men's Bible Study – 9:30 am

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Friday: Youth Group – 7:00 pm

Saturday: Ladies' Bible Study – 8:00 am

Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:30 am  
Corporate Worship – 10:30 am

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**Welcome Visitors:** If you are new to Rosedale or just stopping by for a visit, please take a moment to fill out the visitor card in the pew and place it in the offering plate. Pastor John would be happy to connect with you and answer any questions you may have about our Church.

**FEB Central Conference:** The FEB Central Regional Conference will be held on April 3 & 4 at City Centre Baptist Church in Mississauga. The theme for the conference is 'Recharge' and Dr. Scotty Smith will be the Keynote speaker. Cost for the Conference is \$35. If you would like to register please speak with Pastor John.

**Baby Shower:** On March 25 from 2-4 pm Rosedale will be hosting a diaper shower for Joelle Lehoux and Cindy Olsen's new arrivals (Eleana Lehoux and Arielle Olsen). For gifts please bring either wipes or diapers (sizes 2, 3 or 4). Children are welcome.

**Promise Keepers:** Bethany Community Church will be hosting a Promise Keepers Men's Conference on April 8<sup>th</sup>. The cost to register before \$50 (before March 21<sup>st</sup>). If you would like to register please speak to Pastor John.

## **Wisdom and Folly** - 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 2:5

### **I. The 'Folly' of God's Evangel- vv. 18-25**

- 1) Word of Wisdom (v.17) vs. Word of the Cross (v. 18)
  - a. Pursuit of worldly 'wisdom' was at the heart of the Corinthian disunity and division
  - b. Corinthians cared greatly about the form of preaching (ie. rhetoric & eloquence), whereas Paul cared about the content of preaching
- 2) Those Perishing vs. Those Being Saved
  - a. Every person falls into one of these categories
    - i. Perishing – view the gospel message as foolish (literally in Greek - 'moronic')
    - ii. Saved – understand that the gospel message as the power of God (*cf.* Romans 1:16)
  - b. True condition of the heart is revealed by its response to gospel proclamation
- 3) God's Wisdom vs. Man's 'Wisdom'
  - a. There are 2 kinds of wisdom – one is earthly and one is heavenly (*cf.* James 3:13-18; Job 28)
  - b. God's wisdom seems 'foolish' to unregenerate humanity, but in reality the 'wisdom' of unregenerate humanity is utterly foolish to God!
    - i. Evidence from history (v. 19, *cf.* Isaiah 29:14)
    - ii. Evidence from experience (v. 20)
  - c. God made a sovereign choice to bring salvation through a 'foolish' method and message (v. 21)
    - i. A crucified Messiah was scandalous to the Jews (*cf.* Deuteronomy 21:23)
    - ii. A resurrected Saviour was foolishness to the Greek philosopher (physical body = evil)
    - iii. Christians (literally 'called ones' – v. 24) recognize Christ as God's wisdom and power

### **Application:**

- Do you view the message of Christ's crucifixion for sinners as foolishness, or as God's wisdom and power? What does that indicate about the current condition of your heart and your eternal destination?

- Do not be ashamed of the gospel because people around you think it is foolish!  
- God does not need us to 'tweak' the Gospel in order to make it more attractive and appealing for the lost.

### **II. The 'Folly' of God's Election – vv. 26-31**

- 1) The Objects of God's Calling (v. 26)
  - a. The doctrine of God's effectual 'calling' and 'choosing' (literally 'electing') dominates the entire chapter (v. 1, 2, 9, 24, 26, 27, 28)
  - b. In His sovereignty God has chosen to save many people that this world chooses to reject
- 2) The Purpose of God's Calling
  - a. To reveal the utter foolishness of man's wisdom
  - b. To eliminate every form of human boasting and pretension (*cf.* 2 Timothy 1:9)
    - i. The Corinthians were puffed up in pride
    - ii. In reality they had nothing to boast about!
  - c. To ensure that God receives all the glory for the saving work that Christ accomplished

### **Application:**

- God's call to salvation is unconditional (ie. not based on anything meritorious he saw/ foresaw in man) so that He receives all the glory in the work of salvation. We should be very careful never to rob God of the glory He alone deserves by boasting in our own merit.

### **III. The 'Folly' of God's Evangelist – 2:1-5**

- 1) The Preacher's Eloquence does not save
- 2) The Preacher's Self-Confidence does not save
- 3) Only the mighty power of God's Spirit can save!

### **Application:**

- When you share the gospel do not rely on your own methods, abilities and strength – trust in the power of God's Spirit working through His Word  
- A Church built on the foundation of personalities and pragmatism (ie. popular methods) may attract a crowd but it will accomplish very little for God's Kingdom.