

Connecting the Sunday Sparkle at Hearsall Baptist with the Daily Dust of Life

Welcome

In meeting a problem do you naturally prefer to solve it by brute force or by careful planning? Can you give an example?

Worship

Write a short Psalm about your group's life with the following components:

- Adoration
- Confession
- Thanksgiving
- Request

Word

Read 1 Corinthians 1: 18 - 25

Planet earth is in environmental crisis. Britain is in political crisis. People have never been short of crises!

- What sort of crises do you imagine took place in the 1st century Mediterranean world?

*In a world of crisis, the Apostle Paul talks about the wise and philosophical teachers of his day. The Jews looked for signs from God; Greeks wanted some sort of deep wisdom. God's response, according to Paul, was the Son of God crucified on a cross. This was **a stumbling block** - or a scandal - to Jews - how could God be associated with such shame, weakness and vulnerability? It was **plain crazy** to the Gentiles - as if victory can come through defeat; as if life can come through dying! And yet the cross was God's way of dealing with the crisis in the human condition.*

- What does the cross show us about God's ways of working? Try to come up with several words capturing the divine modus operandi.
- Try applying those words to the environmental catastrophe the planet may be facing. What does the cross teach us about how to interact with our world - especially the natural world?

- How do these words compare with the attitudes of the world at large when it comes to climate change?

Response

- Write a prayer about your place in this changing world.
- Come up with some clear actions to begin to answer your own prayer.