

Not a Fan—Comfortable Cross

Study Questions

1 Corinthians 1:18; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Warm-up

1) What's your favorite comfortable piece of clothing or piece of furniture? How did you come to find it?

A little deeper

2) [1 Corinthians 1:18] Many in the world see the message of the cross as nonsensical or foolish. **What are some ways people react to the message of the cross? What do they find foolish about it?**

3) [2 Corinthians 12:9-10] Among the stories of God working through people's weaknesses (like Abraham, Moses, Rahab, Peter, etc.), which ones stick out most to you?

Are there any modern examples you've seen or heard about?

4) [Luke 9:23] To be a disciple of Jesus, He said we must deny ourselves and take up our cross and follow Him. **What does it mean to take up our cross and follow Jesus?**

How have you seen the cross become a thing of comfort rather than a reminder of someone's relationship with Jesus?

Bringing it home

5) The cross is a symbol of (among other things) victory over death, freedom from the conviction of sin, glory in the face of shame. **Is there anything you find either especially inspiring or especially difficult to accept about the message of the cross?**

6) Do you find yourself holding back from serving God because of some weakness you believe would disqualify you? What would it take to bolster your trust in God, that He will find a way for you to be a powerful witness to Him even in your weakness?

7) Is there a comfortable routine you've gotten into that you follow without questioning? How might this comfortable routine be interfering with growing your relationship with God?

8) What is one uncomfortable thing you have been putting off or avoiding, but that would bring God glory? What are some of the ways it's uncomfortable, or what obstacles are there that must be overcome?