



# THE WORD *Alive*

The Preaching Ministry of  
Ashley River Baptist Church

## LIVING ANALOG IN A DIGITAL WORLD

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

To the world today, the Christian life is a mystery it cannot decipher. Yet, that is indeed the way God intended it, for without the presence of the Holy Spirit, knowledge of God and an understanding of His Will and Way is impossible for the natural man.

### I. God has prepared His Message. (v. 7,9)

<sup>9</sup> *However... "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"*

God has prepared a scope and richness of life for us at the Spiritual level that defies description.

### II. God's Holy Spirit Converts the message. (v. 10-12)

We know God because He unveils Himself through His Spirit.

#### God's Spirit is:

**PERSONAL** - Spirit translates "personal self"

The Spirit originates with God Himself. <sup>12</sup> *We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God,"*

**PROBING** - "The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God."

### III. God's Holy Spirit Communicates the Message (v. 12-13)

God clearly and intentionally communicates His message to His people through the Holy Spirit.

<sup>12</sup> *"...that we may understand what God has freely given us. <sup>13</sup> This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.*

### IV. God determines who receives the message. (v. 8,9 14,16)

**The natural man cannot know the things of God for he has:**

**NO CAPACITY TO RECEIVE IT**

**NO CAPACITY TO UNDERSTAND IT**

<sup>8</sup> *None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" <sup>14</sup> The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>16</sup> "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?"*

**CONCLUSION:** Having the Spirit of God, the Spiritual man is able to appraise and evaluate all aspects of life with a proper and Godly perspective and priority. The natural man, however, lacking the capacity to understand the things of God, cannot be relied upon for truth and wisdom and as such the Christian should not be subject to evaluation by the non-Christian. Receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior that you may have the discerning power of His Holy Spirit that brings understanding, peace and hope in the midst of a world where the spiritual signals are "scrambled".

**1 Corinthians 2:1-16** <sup>NIV</sup> 1 Corinthians 2:1 When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. <sup>2</sup> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power. <sup>6</sup> We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. <sup>7</sup> No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. <sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"-- <sup>10</sup> but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup> For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. <sup>13</sup> This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. <sup>14</sup> The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup> The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment: <sup>16</sup> "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.