# newlife SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

## A Dangerous Act

To Surrender - I Corinthians 1:18-25

### **Discussion Points**

March 20, 2022

#### Read/Reflect

- Read I Corinthians 1:18-25. What does the passage declare to be the unifying principle for the body of Christ? What is causing division in the Corinthian church (I Cor.1:12)?
- 2. How would you explain this passage if someone were to suggest that this is a proof text against education and using our mind, our intellect, our knowledge?

#### **Explore**

- 3. When you think of power and success, what kinds of things come to mind? What are the sources of power that allow you to be successful in life?
- 4. Identify an issue of injustice in society. How does power or the imbalance of power play into that issue.
- 5. How might seeking justice and mercy look like foolishness to someone who doesn't acknowledge Jesus Christ?
- 6. When has following the power of the cross (Christ crucified) cost you success?

#### **Pray**

- ... for the ability to surrender all things, even your success, to Christ who is your wisdom, righteousness, holiness, and your redemption (I Cor. 1:30).
- ... for God's grace & mercy to extend to all who are unfairly & cruelly treated (include people you are aware of).

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the needs of others

Open my ears that I may hear their cries;

Open my heart so that they need not be without succor;

Let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong.

Nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.

Show me where love and hope and faith are needed.

And use me to bring them to those places.

And so, open my eyes and my ears

That I may this coming day be able to do some work of peace for thee.

- Alan Paton

