Campbellsport Alliance Church N1876 Hwy V Campbellsport, Wisconsin 53010 533-5123 Pastor Doug Birr www.campbellsportalliancechurch.org

## **February 2, 2025**

Prelude

Call to Worship

Worship Through Singing Come to Jesus

(#196) Wonderful Grace of Jesus

Family Time

Prayer

Worship Through Giving

Message from God's Word

Worship Through Singing (#81) Lead Me to Calvary

Communion-Bread

Worship Through Singing How Deep the Father's Love

Communion-The Cup

Closing Song The Power of the Cross

**Closing Prayer** 

Postlude

Ushers for today: Jim Berg and David Schneider Ushers for next week: Cliff Howard and Ron Straub Sound System for today: Jonathan Schutz Sound System for next week: Jeff Michalski Church cleaning this week: Linda and Kristy

### **Activities this week**

n Worship Service
n Sunday School
n Ladies' Prayer at Birr's
n Jail Ministry
n Awana and Youth Group
n Men's Breakfast

#### **Announcements**

#### International Workers this month: "C and S" in SE Asia

All funds given to missions this month will go directly to support them and their ministries unless otherwise designated.

**Next Ladies' Prayer-**Tomorrow at 9:30am at Birr's

**Men's Breakfast on Saturday-**Let Pastor know if you're coming and will bring something for the breakfast.

Beginning Next Sunday in Sunday School- "The Truth in True Crime" video series featuring J. Warner Wallace. He is a former homicide detective who specialized in cold cases. He is a staunch defender of the claims of Christianity. He has authored many books including "Cold Case Christianity". The Sunday School series reveals attributes of human nature, rules for life, and evidence for Christianity.

**Assisted Listening Devices** are available at the information center. Contact sound booth personnel with any questions.

**Children's Church** is for children age 4 through 6th grade. Children can leave before the message.

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# Four Benefits of Being Wise

-Ray Stedman in his sermon "Whoever Said Life was Fair?"

"Who is like the wise man? And who knows the interpretation of a thing: A man's wisdom makes his face shine, and the hardness of his countenance is changed." (Ecclesiastes 8:1 RSV)

There is a marvelous, fourfold description of what happens to one who discovers the true wisdom of righteousness as a gift from God, one who walks with God, in the fear of God. First, it will make that person a unique human being: "Who is like the wise man?" One of the follies of life is to try to imitate somebody else. The media constantly bombards us with subtle invitations to look like, dress or talk like some popular idol. If you succeed in that, of course, you will be nothing but a cheap imitation of another person. The glory of the good news is that when you become a new creature in Jesus Christ you will be unique. There will be no one like you. You will become more and more like Christ, but unlike everyone else, in personality. You will be uniquely yourself. You will not be a copy, a cheap imitation, but an original from the Spirit of God. That is the first and most wonderful thing about salvation.

Secondly, the Searcher says, godly wisdom will give you a secret knowledge: "Who knows the interpretation of a thing?" The implication of that question is that the wise man knows. This is what Paul declares in 1 Corinthians 2: "The spiritual man judges all things." (I Corinthians 2:15a RSV) The spiritual man is in a position to pass moral judgment on the value of everything, not because he is so smart, but because the God who teaches him is wise.

Thirdly, such a man will experience a visible joy: "A man's wisdom makes his face shine." Grace is what makes the face shine, not grease. Grease is what they put in cosmetics to make the face shine or to take away the shine, as the case may be, but it is grace that does it from within; grace makes the face shine because it is joy visibly expressed on the human face.

Finally it changes the very inner disposition of a person: "The hardness of his countenance is changed." Have you ever watched somebody under the impact of the Spirit of God in his life soften, mellow and grow easier to live with? That is the work of the Spirit of God.

