

August 23, 2026

Digging deeper: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (God chooses the ordinary)

Slide 1: (10 min)

In 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, Paul speaks from experience about his own mindset shift.

Read also Acts 5:29-40a, Acts 22:1-3, and Philippians 3:3-9.

- Was Paul ever considered “wise” in the world’s eyes?
- How did he once consider himself wise, but then foolish?

Slide 2: (8 min)

Read Amos 7:10-15, Acts 4:8-18, and 1 Corinthians 2:3-5.

- What special training did these men have?
- By what power were they able to speak boldly?
- Have you ever said, “I don’t have enough Bible knowledge to share Christ with others?”
How can you make yourself available to God, like these disciples?

Slide 3: (8 min)

Read Ephesians 2:4-6, 1 Corinthians 1:30, 6:15-17, 12:12-13, and verse 27

- How has God united believers with Christ?
- If you believe in Christ for salvation, and share in this unity, what can stop you from freely and boldly speaking about the blood of Christ?

Observations:

Slide 1: (10 min)

In 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, Paul speaks from experience about his own mindset shift.

Read also Acts 5:29-40a, Acts 22:1-3, and Philippians 3:3-9.

- Was Paul ever considered “wise” in the world’s eyes?
- How did he once consider himself wise, but then foolish?
(Yes, Paul was a respected Jewish Pharisee who was disciplined under Gamaliel, a highly respected expert in religious law. At one time, this pedigree was valuable to him, but after Christ, it is worthless compared with what Christ has done and continues to do through Paul.)

Slide 2: (8 min)

Read Amos 7:10-15, Acts 4:8-18, and 1 Corinthians 2:3-5.

- What special training did these men have? (none; shepherds and fishermen)
- By what power were they able to speak boldly? (God, Holy Spirit)
- Have you ever said, “I don’t have enough Bible knowledge to share Christ with others?”
How can you make yourself available to God, like these disciples?

Slide 3: (8 min)

Read Ephesians 2:4-6, 1 Corinthians 1:30, 6:15-17, 12:12-13, and verse 27

- How has God united believers with Christ? (at the point of belief/salvation, the Spirit baptizes us into Christ and the family of God and we become one with Him.)
- If you believe in Christ for salvation, and share in this unity, what can stop you from freely and boldly speaking about the blood of Christ? (There should be nothing that stops me; I can trust Him to lead me into conversations and situations in which seeds of Truth can be planted)