

RE-VIEW

Weekly Devotionals

"GOD CHOOSES THE ORDINARY"

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Situation

Our world is drawn to people who seem impressive. We notice the talented, successful, wealthy, connected, influential, and popular. We celebrate people with enormous platforms and treat them as though their status proves their worth.

That mindset begins early. Think about being chosen for a team at school. Most of us remember what it felt like to wait and wonder: Will I be picked? Will I be the last one standing? Will anyone actually want me?

Those old feelings do not always go away when we become adults. They simply take new forms. We may look around at work, church, social media, or even our own families and quietly compare ourselves to others. Someone else seems more gifted, more polished, better educated, more financially secure, more confident, or more spiritually mature.

Then we can begin to think, "God may use people like them, but surely not someone like me."

Maybe you have believed your past disqualifies you. You have made decisions you regret. You have a broken relationship, a weakness you cannot hide, a lack of education, a hard family story, or a personality that does not naturally draw attention. **You may feel ordinary at best—and insignificant at worst.**

The Corinthians had begun to think too highly of themselves. They valued worldly wisdom, power, influence, and social standing. But Paul calls them to remember who they were when

God saved them. Few were considered wise, powerful, or important by the world's standards. Yet God called them anyway.

That is not an insult. It is grace.

God does not need impressive people in order to do His work.

Jesus is the Savior, and He alone is worthy of the spotlight. God loves to work through ordinary people so that it becomes clear that the power, grace, and glory belong to Him.

The church does not need a collection of celebrities. We have a Savior. His name is Jesus. He is the One we exalt, and He is more than enough.

Scripture

ReVisit - **1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (NLT):**

Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you.

27 Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. **28** God chose things despised by the world,^[b] things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. **29** As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

30 God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. **31** Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord."

Additional Scriptures to Look Up This Week:

- **Judges 6:11-16** — God calls Gideon.
- **Judges 7:2-8** — God wins the victory.
- **Exodus 4:10-12** — God gives ability.
- **2 Corinthians 12:8-10** — Strength in weakness.
- **2 Corinthians 5:21** — Made right through Christ.

- **1 Peter 2:9–10** — Chosen to show God's goodness.
- **Psalms 115:1** — All glory belongs to God.
- **Jeremiah 9:23–24** — Boast only in knowing God.
- **John 14:6** — Jesus is the only way.

Truth

God uses the people the world overlooks so that everyone can see His power and glory.

Paul is not saying that education, influence, resources, or ability are bad. The problem comes when we trust those things, use them to measure our worth, or believe they make us more useful to God. God is not impressed by a résumé. **He looks for people who know they need Him.**

Gideon felt like a nobody. He came from a weak family, saw himself as the least in that family, and could not imagine being used by God. But God did not reassure Gideon by telling him how capable he was. God simply said, "I will be with you."

That is what makes all the difference for us too. God's work is not dependent on our strength. It is dependent on His presence.

God saves us and uses us by grace. In Christ, we are made right with God, made holy, and freed from sin. We cannot take credit for any of it. Jesus is the Savior, the wisdom of God, and the One worthy of all our praise.

You may feel overlooked by the world, but you are never overlooked by God. He sees you, knows you, loves you, and can use your ordinary life to make Jesus known.

Application

Take an honest look at the limitation you have been using as an excuse to stay on the sidelines.

Maybe you have said:

- "I do not know the Bible well enough."
- "I am too shy."
- "I have made too many mistakes."
- "I do not have enough money."
- "I do not have the right personality."
- "I am not a leader."
- "My family background is too messy."
- "Someone else would do it better."

Some of those struggles are real. God does not ask you to pretend that weakness does not exist. But He does ask you to stop treating your weakness as stronger than His grace. Gideon did not become useful because he finally believed in himself. He became useful because he trusted that God would be with him. The same is true for us. God's call is not built on your résumé. It is built on His grace and His presence.

Ask the Lord to show you one place where fear, comparison, insecurity, or shame has kept you from obeying Him. It may be serving in the church, sharing the gospel, encouraging someone, praying out loud, using a spiritual gift, reconciling a relationship, or taking a step of faith that feels beyond you.

Then take the next faithful step.

Consider these questions as you pray:

- Where have I allowed comparison to make me feel disqualified from being used by God?
- What weakness, limitation, or painful part of my story might God want to use to display His strength?
- Where am I tempted to depend on myself instead of depending on the Lord?
- What step of obedience has God placed in front of me today?
- When people see my life, do they leave impressed with me—or impressed with the grace of God?

God is not asking you to become somebody in the eyes of the world. He is inviting you to belong fully to Jesus, walk humbly with Him, and faithfully use what He has placed in your hands.

That may look ordinary. It may not earn applause. It may not build a platform. But a life surrendered to Jesus is never insignificant.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You that You do not choose people because they are impressive by the world's standards. Thank You for seeing me completely—for knowing my weakness, my sin, my fears, my past, and my limitations—and loving me still.

Forgive me for the times I have believed that I am too ordinary, too weak, too broken, or too unqualified for You to use. Forgive me also for the times I have trusted in myself, taken credit for Your work, or sought the approval of people more than Your glory.

Lord, help me to believe that Your grace is enough for every weakness I carry. Give me courage to take the next step of obedience, even when I do not feel ready. Use my ordinary life, my story, my gifts, and even my limitations to point people to Jesus.

Make me humble. Keep me dependent on You. When You work in and through me, may I never take the glory for myself. May my life always say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord."

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.