

Take 5!

5 Verses, 5 Questions, 5 Minutes!

The Weak and Foolish

By Mary Kane

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If you are like me, you've probably struggled from time to time with feelings of unworthiness. Sometimes I wonder why God ever called a person like me to join Him to do the work of His kingdom. I'm not particularly smart, wise or discerning. But, as you will see from our study, God chooses to use the weak so He will receive glory from the work that He accomplishes through us!

Before we begin our study today, please take a moment to pray and ask your Holy Father to forgive you of any sin and fill you with His Holy Spirit so you will be ready to receive from His Word.

Now please read 1 Corinthians 1:26-30.

Please fill in the missing words in verse 26:

"For you see your _____ brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are _____."

The word *call* used in this verse descends from the root word *keleou* which means to command. This word also means "to call out loud, to call by name, to name." Make no mistake; God purposely calls, by name, the weak and foolish to join Him in His work. You did not become a Christian by accident!

Whom has God chosen to shame the wise and mighty?

The word for *weak* means feeble, weak or sickly. God's Word makes it very clear that He will use anyone who is willing to be used by Him—those with: learning disabilities, cancer, sicknesses, heart disease, aids, diabetes, blindness, deafness etc. All are chosen. He has chosen you...your child...your husband.

The word *chosen* means "to pick or choose out for one's self." Imagine that you are back in elementary school at recess, choosing sides for a game of kickball. Who is always chosen first? The fast, the agile, the talented. Now imagine that Jesus is there choosing His team. He chooses the players that nobody else wants; the slow, the clumsy, the handicapped. The lack of skill of His team does not concern Jesus because He intends to "pinch-hit" for all of them! And Jesus will get all the glory!

Whom has God chosen according to verse 28?

According to the original Greek, God has chosen the nothings, the nobodies, the no accounts, the no names; God has chosen those who are despised by the world. Perhaps, like me, you have often been despised and rejected by the world. That hurts deeply, but God wants you to know that He has chosen you in Christ and that heals deeply.

How do the foolish, weak and despised bring the world to nothing?

By the power of Christ!

What does Jesus become for us (verse 30)?

He takes our weakness, baseness and foolishness and gives us His wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption. Glory!

How can you let God use your weakness to bring glory to Him?

If you feel weak, foolish and untalented don't despair! Those attributes qualify you to be chosen, called and selected as a witness for the King of Kings!

"The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul;

The testimony of the Lord is sure,

Making wise the simple."

Psalm 19:7

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