

God Has Chosen The Weak Things To Shame The Strong

Many times as we think about His goodness in allowing us to minister inside and outside the United States, we are reminded that God is not limited by our credentials, experiences or personal wisdom and power. He is only limited by our unwillingness to answer His call and trust Him for the wisdom and power to minister.

In 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 we are told to "consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised, God has chosen, the things that are not, that He might nullify the things that are, that no man should boast before God."

Also, in 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, we find that we cannot minister in our wisdom and power. "And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God. What is God saying to us through these portions of scripture? We believe that God uses those who would commonly be considered foolish, weak, and of no consequence to convey the gospel message. It says that our perception of what we can or cannot do is the only thing that limits our usefulness to God. It also says that if our message is to be effective, we must rely on the wisdom and power of God.

In all of this we see our need to totally rely upon God, otherwise we move into spiritual exhaustion and ineffectiveness in our ministry to others. Oswald Chambers in his devotional book entitled "My Utmost For His Highest" says it this way: "We owe it to God to be our best for His lambs and His sheep as well as for Himself. Has the way in which you have been serving God betrayed you into exhaustion? If so, then rally your affections. Where did you start the service from? From your own sympathy or from the basis of the redemption of Jesus Christ? Be exhausted for God, but remember that your supply (wisdom and power) comes from Him."

Let's agree to make ourselves available to serve the Lord just as we are without any dependence upon ourselves, but being totally dependent upon the Lord. Then our ministry to others will surely agree with God who said, "He has chosen the weak things to shame the strong...that no man should boast before God."