

Daily Devotional, February 15, 2021 Who Accepts the Job?

“ Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.” 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

It makes perfect sense in our world that the best qualified person gets the job after the many interviews that take place. I don't think that anyone would argue against that point. Who's has the most impressive resume? We might debate who is best qualified, but that's about it. Someone is chosen. They've studied the job requirements; in certain cases, they have a degree. They have experience, and their record is stellar. You're hired! Welcome to the company! Now get to work!

Is that how God does it? Is that how God chose the Apostles? How about the ancient men of the Bible who served Him like Abraham? David? Jonah? Matthew? Saul of Tarsus? A little boy with five loaves and two fish? Not even remotely. But that doesn't stop us from thinking that the *spiritual* giants should be the ones to lift the spiritual load while the rest of us cheer them on whenever we feel up to it.

One of the greatest spiritual giants of our era was Billy Graham. Millions of souls came to Christ because he boldly proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I can remember my parents watching some of the televised crusades he led, bringing hundreds, even thousands to Christ. Why was he so special? Because he was willing. He didn't start with a throng of thousands. He started with a group so small they would fit in your living room. And in times of turbulence he laid aside his doubts and fears, and let God use him. He simply told the truth in boldness and love. He became an ambassador for Jesus. He was not some “super” Christian. The power that propelled the message came from God alone. Billy Graham didn't shake the world. Jesus shook the world through a willing servant who spent decades in humble service to Him.

God told Abraham to leave his family and go to an unfamiliar place. God tested his faith. Abraham simply obeyed. No whining or questioning. He believed God and acted accordingly. Moses was running away when God called him. Saul of Tarsus thought he was ridding the world of heathen idolaters when he went about killing Christians. But when he met Jesus, was blinded and brought to his knees, he was willing to obey. Jesus used Paul to turn the world upside down. He wasn't a super Christian. He was a servant willing to do absolutely anything for Jesus.

Then there is the *real* “super” Christian. He was among the multitudes who were leaning on every word Jesus spoke. Untrained. Unqualified. Unknown. But when Jesus looked for some food, this little boy offered the only thing he had. He wasn't special. He was willing to give up his lunch for others. And Jesus fed thousands with the little he had. The power is God's alone. The glory is God's alone.

If you are a follower of Christ, what is His purpose for your life? I believe He put you here and keeps you here for His glory. Will you take up the challenge and use your life in humble service for Him?

Prayer: Jesus, thank you for showing to me what a life of sacrifice and service looks like. I confess that my natural tendency is to serve myself, and I pray that You would help me to follow in Your footsteps, remembering how much You have done for me. It's Your name, Jesus, that I pray. Amen.