



divided

OPENING UP

What's one of your favorite “underdog” stories? Think of a story where those who appeared to have no shot of winning came out on top. It can be a story from movies, sports, real-life, etc.

TEXT**Choosing Weakness | 1 Corinthians 1:26 - 31**

²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” (ESV)

MESSAGE OUTLINE

Big Idea: Boast in God's wisdom and power.

1. Consider *whom* God saves. (vv. 26–29)
2. Consider *how* God saves. (vv. 30–31)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



- Think about the difference between the wisdom of God and the wisdom according to world standards. Have you ever had a time when you felt like your faith was seen as “foolish” by the people around you? What were some of the feelings you had in that situation? What was your response?
- In 1 Corinthians 1:27, Paul reveals that God works through the lowly. How does this change the way we look for influence? How does it change our view of salvation when we see God loving the “lowly?”
- When you consider whom God saves, how does that affect your understanding of yourself and your community? How might that influence how and with whom you share the Gospel?
- Read 1 Corinthians 1:30-31 again. In verse 30 Paul lists multiple realities we have because we are “in Christ.” Where have you seen righteousness, sanctification, and redemption in your own life? What are some other benefits we receive by being in Christ that might be found in other scriptures?
- Salvation purely as an act from God causes us to declare the greatness of who God is to the world. This means we should boast, brag, speak, shout, and proclaim the amazingness of His wisdom and power. What would look different this week if you were to “boast more in God’s power and wisdom?”

LIFE CHALLENGE



God loves the “lowly” and those humble of heart. Realizing that God works through those surrendered at His feet, take time this week to worship Him in your own way. Surrender your life before Him by taking time for prayer, Scripture reading, a time of worship during your commute, etc.

Remember that we ought to proclaim the excellencies of God’s mercies. Think of ways you can boast in God’s goodness to those around you this week. Begin to think of creative ways to boast, brag, speak, shout, or proclaim to your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors.

CLOSING PRAYER



Today, pray that God would humble you to a point to see the greatness of God. Thank Him for the salvation that only He can provide to redeem the lost.

Ask God that He would use the lowly to show His righteousness to a broken world.

Pray that God would enable you to share the message of salvation in Christ. Ask that He would be something that you would want to boast about in your life.