

August 19th – God Chooses Fools Like Us

“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty.”
(1 Cor. 1:26-27)

When Paul wrote his first letter to the church at Corinth, he had his hands full. The church at Corinth was known for its spiritual immaturity and wickedness, and Paul spent the majority of his letter dealing with their shortcomings. And yet he began the letter by reminding the church that God had called him to preach the Gospel (1:17). He helped the church understand that while the Gospel is the power of God to salvation for all who believe, it is foolishness to a world that is perishing (1:18).

Of course, we know that the Gospel is not really foolishness, but it appears to be lunacy to those who don't know Christ. It's for good reason that God would choose what appears to be a foolish message to reveal His saving power. God also chooses fools like us to accomplish His work! Paul helped his readers understand that they were not among the wise, mighty, or noble. That's not quite the power of positive thinking, self-help gospel approach we see in much of the world, today.

And yet, Paul had a purpose – to help us understand that God doesn't often call the wise, mighty, or noble. Instead, he often chooses folks like us – simple, weak, and burdened. But why would God do that? Paul answers that question – “that no flesh should glory in His presence.” God chooses to use fools like us so that when great things are accomplished through us, only He can get the glory. If you feel like you're “not enough” that's ok – you're just the sort of person God loves to use.