

August 31, 2024

Daily Reflections



Center for Spiritual Development

CONSIDER YOUR CALLING

By Sr. Katherine “Kit” Gray

Today's First Reading

***See ideas about wisdom in yesterday's Reflection Reading
([available here](#)).***

Consider your own calling, brothers and sisters.

Not many of you were wise by human standards,

not many were powerful,

not many were of noble birth.

Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise,

and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong,

and God chose the lowly and despised of the world,

those who count for nothing,

to reduce to nothing those who are something,

so that no human being might boast before God.

It is due to him that you are in Christ Jesus,

who became for us wisdom from God,

*as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption,
so that, as it is written,
Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord.*

1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-31

Context and Reflection

In this section of his letter to the Corinthians, Paul brings together ideas about call, wisdom, and weakness. He challenges his readers—and us—to “consider your own calling” and to recognize that most of those called didn’t meet worldly standards of worth or value—“not many of you were wise, powerful, or of noble birth.” And yet, Paul insists, God chose the weak, the lowly, those who count for nothing—earthen vessels—so that God could act in and through them, showing power through weakness.

Paul reminds us that it is an illusion to think that we save ourselves, and he challenges us to recognize that everything is a gift—all that we are and all that we have is a gift. Realizing this, we should “boast in the Lord.”



Person Sitting in Front of Body of Water
Photo by Engin Akyurt

For Pondering

- What words or phrases catch your attention?
 - When have you experienced God working through your weakness?
 - What do you want to “boast about” the Lord's work in your life?
-

For Prayer

*“Give thanks to the LORD for he is good,
his mercy endures forever!”*

*Let that be the prayer of the LORD's redeemed,
those redeemed from the hand of the foe,
Those gathered from foreign lands,
from east and west, from north and south.*

*Some had lost their way in a barren desert;
found no path toward a city to live in.
They were hungry and thirsty;
their life was ebbing away.*

*In their distress they cried to the LORD,
who rescued them in their peril,
guided them by a direct path
so they reached a city to live in.*

*Let them thank the LORD for his mercy,
such wondrous deeds for the children of Adam.
For he satisfied the thirsty,
filled the hungry with good things.*

*While he released the poor ones from affliction,
and increased their families like flocks.
The upright saw this and rejoiced;
all wickedness shut its mouth.*

*Whoever is wise will take note of these things,
and ponder the merciful deeds of the LORD.*

SELECTIONS FROM PSALM 107

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