

“The Value of an Ordinary Life”

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Matthew 28:16-20

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We can be confident God wants to use our ordinary lives for extraordinary purposes.

- 1. Look at the disciples God chose.
(Matthew 28:16-20)**

- 2. Look at the people God used at the birth of Jesus.
(Luke 1:26-2:45)**

- 3. Look at the Old Testament leaders.
(Exodus 3 and 4; 1 Samuel 16:7-13)**

- 4. Look at what Scripture teaches.
(1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5)**

1 Corinthians 1:26-31, 2:1-5, *The Message*

“Take a good look, friends, at who you were when you got called into this life. I don't see many of ‘the brightest and the best’ among you, not many influential, not many from high-society families. Isn't it obvious that God deliberately chose men and women that the culture overlooks and exploits and abuses, chose these ‘nobodies’ to expose the hollow pretensions of the ‘somebodies’? That makes it quite clear that none of you can get by with blowing your own horn before God. Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ. That's why we have the saying, ‘If you're going to blow a horn, blow a trumpet for God.’

You'll remember, friends, that when I first came to you to let you in on God's master stroke, I didn't try to impress you with polished speeches and the latest philosophy. I deliberately kept it plain and simple: first Jesus and who he is; then Jesus and what he did—Jesus crucified.

I was unsure of how to go about this, and felt totally inadequate—I was scared to death, if you want the truth of it—and so nothing I said could have impressed you or anyone else. But the Message came through anyway. God's Spirit and God's power did it, which made it clear that your life of faith is a response to God's power, not to some fancy mental or emotional footwork by me or anyone else.”