

Lent Devotional March 3, 2020

Scripture

1 Corinthians 1:20-31

20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, 23 but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. 26 Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human 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, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, 29 so that no one might boast in the presence of God. 30 He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Devotional

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"Consider your own call." St. Paul's words to the Corinthians provide us the opportunity to reflect on our own call here and now. Most often we associate calls with the call to ordained ministry; but each and every one of us has a call, and that call is from God and rooted in Christ Jesus. "He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God."

As we move through Lent this year, let us slow down and take the time to consider what God may be calling us to. It may involve a career change, or it may be ways to be more present to minister to those around us in need. Let us humbly reflect on the gifts we have been given by God and discern how God may be calling us to use these gifts for God's greater glory. Finally, let us give thanks to God for the gifts he has endowed us with—and pray for the strength and consolation to be grounded in these gifts and guided by God in following our call.

Prayer

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
my memory, my understanding,
and my entire will,
All I have and call my own.
You have given all to me.
To you, Lord, I return it.
Everything is yours; do with it what you will.
Give me only your love and your grace,
that is enough for me.
(*Suscipe* – St. Ignatius of Loyola)