> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.
>
> *— 1 Corinthians 1:28-29*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: calling, humility, pride, world

Interpretation:
First *Corinthians 1:28-29* speaks of God’s sovereignty and His purpose in choosing believers. The main idea of ??the verse is that God chooses those whom He wants His will to be done and that ultimately no one can boast before Him.

Divine choice

Verse 29 says, *“so that no one may boast before him,”* which suggests that the Corinthians, in their arrogance, may have sought to boast in themselves or in others. But *Paul*, the writer of the letter, teaches that election is not based on human understanding, but on the divine will. God chooses whom He wants to save regardless of their wisdom, ability, wealth, or social status, and regardless of their works.

The grace of God

These verses remind us that justification, salvation, and all spiritual blessings are thanks to God. This is an expression of God's free love for us because we are not worthy of His grace and salvation. Therefore, we must be humble and grateful for the salvation we have received through faith in *the Lord Jesus Christ*.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
>
> *— 1 Corinthians 1:9*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: calling, Church, faithfulness, God, Jesus, reliability

Interpretation:
1 Corinthians 1:9 begins with a powerful message: *“God is faithful.”* This statement is a foundational fact of the Christian faith because it recognizes God’s faithfulness in all of His promises and actions. In a world full of uncertainty and changing situations, God’s faithfulness is a ray of light that always guides us.

Communion with Jesus Christ

The verse goes on to say that we are called into fellowship with *His Son Jesus Christ, our Lord*. This concept of fellowship is of great importance to believers because it is the foundation of our relationship with God. Through Jesus Christ, we can draw near to God, know Him, and establish a relationship of love and trust.

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> But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”
>
> *— 1 Peter 1:15-16*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: calling, Holiness, life

Interpretation:
The Bible is a book that speaks directly to our hearts, teaches us God’s ways, and shows us the kind of life we ??should live. It contains many lessons about how we should act in our daily lives. In *1 Peter 1:15-16* we find a call to live a holy life, but what does that mean?

What does it mean to be holy?

Holiness is one of the attributes of God that refers to His purity and perfection. To be holy is to live according to God's will and turn away from sin. It is to live a life that glorifies God at all times and in all places. God calls us to be conformed to His image and to be like Him in everything we do.

How can we be holy?

Being holy is something that is accomplished by the power *of the Holy Spirit* in our lives. It is a growth process in which God transforms us from the inside out as we strive to become more like Him each day.

As Christians, we can be holy by dedicating our lives to God and seeking a deeper relationship with Him through prayer, Bible reading, and fellowship with other believers. We can also be holy by making wise and righteous choices, being kind and patient, and refraining from actions that offend God.

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> To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.
> *— 1 Peter 2:21*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: calling, following, obedience, suffering

Interpretation:
The Apostle *Peter* was speaking to new Christians, reminding them that *Christ* suffered for us and that we too should be willing to suffer for our faith. He says that *Jesus* is our example and that we should follow in His footsteps. This means that we should live according to the principles that Christ taught and that we should do everything possible to live without sin and do good.

Christ suffered for us

The fact that Christ suffered for us means that He chose to suffer and die for our redemption. He loved us so much that He was willing to do anything for us, even if it meant suffering and dying on the cross. His sacrifice made salvation and eternal life possible for those who believe in Him.

Christ our example

Jesus is the perfect example of how we should live. He always did what was right and loved everyone who crossed His path. He never sinned and always submitted to the will of God. If we want to live according to God's will, then we must follow the example of Jesus and live the same way.

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> Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.
> *— 1 Peter 3:9*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: calling, blessing, speaking

Interpretation:
Have you noticed that the theme of love is a recurring theme in *Peter's* letters? Not just God's love for us, but our love for others. Peter had to learn this lesson himself, and he had a hard time learning it! How patient *Jesus* was with him! As the whole law is summed up in love, so all human relationships are conducted in love. This applies to every believer and every aspect of life.

A famous physician made a list of the various emotions that cause illness in humans, such as fear, disappointment, anger, resentment, hatred, envy, and jealousy. The doctor said that the only antidote that can save people from destruction against these powerful forces is LOVE.

What is Christian love? It is keeping silent when your words can hurt. It is patience when your neighbor is rude. When a scandal breaks out, he remains deaf. It is consideration for the problems of others. And it is courage when disaster strikes. This admonition must have meant a lot to Peter himself, because he once tried to fight the enemies *of Christ* with a SWORD.

Before his conversion, another Apostle *Paul* used every means possible to oppose Christianity. But when he gave himself to Christ, Paul never used HUMAN WEAPONS to fight God's battles. When Peter and the apostles were persecuted, they relied on prayer and the power of God, not on their own wisdom or strength.

We must act with mercy, because that is how God treats us.

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> The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.
>
> *— 1 Thessalonians 5:24*

Book: New Testament / 1 Thessalonians
Topics: calling, faithfulness, promises, reliability, Word of God

Interpretation:
1 Thessalonians 5:24 is a verse that talks about God's faithfulness. The *apostle Paul* wrote this letter to the church in Thessalonica to encourage them in their faith and remind them of some important truths about God. In this verse, Paul tells them that God is faithful and will keep his promises.

To better understand the meaning of *1 Thessalonians 5:24*, it is important to look at the context in which it was written. In the previous verses, Paul encouraged the believers in Thessalonica to rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in every situation. Then he tells them that God is faithful and will keep his promises.

In other words, Paul is saying that even though life may be difficult and the future uncertain, we can trust in God's faithfulness. He encouraged the believers in Thessalonica to hold fast to the truth that God will not abandon them and will fulfill His purpose in them.

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> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
>
> *— 2 Peter 1:10-11*

Book: New Testament / 2 Peter

Topics: calling, Kingdom, obedience, reward

Interpretation:
2 Peter 1:10-11 reminds us of the importance of keeping our calling and election secure. The word *“calling*” refers to God’s calling on our lives, and the word *“election”* means that God has chosen us to be part of His people.

This is the promise *Peter* makes to believers who have confessed *Jesus Christ* as their Lord and Savior. Peter assures us that if we live according to God’s principles and do His will, we will be received into the everlasting kingdom with a rich and generous entrance.

Perseverance in Faith

In this verse, Peter encourages us to persevere in faith and take steps to strengthen our calling and election. Life can be difficult, and often we feel like we are about to fall. But if we maintain faith in God and work to strengthen our calling and election, we can be confident that we will never fall.

The Lord's Eternal Kingdom

These verses are a promise that God makes to every person who trusts in Him. He assures us that no matter our circumstances or trials on earth, we can be assured of eternal life in heaven, in the presence of our *Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*.

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> He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
> *— 2 Thessalonians 2:14*

Book: New Testament / 2 Thessalonians
Topics: calling, Evangelism

Interpretation:
2 Thessalonians 2:14 tells us that God has called us through the gospel so that we might receive the glory of our *Lord Jesus Christ*. This means that our faith in Jesus and His word is the gate to heaven.

This verse helps us understand the importance of the gospel in our lives and the need to follow Jesus' word. It also encourages us to share this message with others so that they can experience the same salvation that we have.

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> He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.
> *— 2 Timothy 1:9*

Book: New Testament / 2 Timothy
Topics: calling, grace, Holiness, Salvation

Interpretation:
In *2 Timothy 1:9*, the apostle *Paul* tells us about God's calling of us as a people. God has saved us, and we are called by His grace, not by our meritorious works, and this was established in *Jesus Christ* before the ages of ages forever.

Salvation by grace

It is important to emphasize that our salvation is not dependent on our own works, but on the grace of God. As humans, we make mistakes and sin, but it is through faith in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice on the cross that we can receive the salvation that God offers us freely and unconditionally.

God's purpose

God's call to us shows us His purpose for our lives. God has a plan for each of us, a mission to fulfill in this world. When we accept His call and submit to Him, we give ourselves the opportunity to live life to the fullest and experience His will. The divine call leads us to fulfill our purpose in life and to fulfill the plans God has for us.

The grace of God in Christ Jesus

It is by the grace of God that we can achieve salvation and divine purpose in our lives. The grace of God means that we do not have to do anything to earn His love or favor. He gives us His grace

through Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and saved us from eternal death. In Jesus we find the grace we need to live our lives and fulfill our calling.

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> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called.
> — *Ephesians 4:4*

Book: New Testament / Ephesians
Topics: calling, body, hope, Spirit

Interpretation:
Ephesians 4:4 speaks of the unity of the church. This verse teaches us that all Christians are called to be part of one body and are led by the same *Holy Spirit*. Furthermore, we share the same hope in our spiritual calling. Unity, then, is essential to the proper functioning of the church and is a concept that is widely discussed in the Bible.

How can we apply this verse to our lives?

The doctrine of unity is central to the life of any Christian church. Believers must unite under the banner of one faith, since doctrinal diversity divides us. God's love for humanity, expressed in the sacrifice *of Christ* on the cross, is the common element that should be emphasized, not any minor differences that may exist.

Through this unity, we can work together toward a common goal without compromising what is important: our service to God and our love for Him. Therefore, it is important to remember that we are one church, led by one Spirit and called to one hope.

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> I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me. To a nation that did not call on my name, I said, ‘Here am I, here am I.’
>
> — *Isaiah 65:1*

Book: Old Testament / Isaiah
Topics: calling, listening, seeking

Interpretation:
The Book of Isaiah is one of the most important prophetic books of the Old Testament, offering us a unique promise and warning. *Isaiah 65:1* is seen in the broader context of God's judgment on a rebellious nation, but it also contains the promise of God's abundant grace.

In this verse, God speaks of how He seeks those who do not seek Him, finds those who do not call upon Him, and reveals Himself to them. The promise is that even if some have lost their way, God still seeks them and is willing to reveal Himself to them. This demonstrates God's loving and compassionate nature toward humanity.

How can this verse help us?

This verse can be of great help to those who are struggling in their faith or feel they have lost their way. It reminds us that God is a God of love and is always ready to receive those who have fallen away from Him. It can also be a great comfort to those who seek God but seem unable to find Him.

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> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.
>
> — *John 15:16*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: calling, Fruitfulness, obedience, Prayer

Interpretation:
At first glance, these words of Jesus may seem confusing and difficult to understand. What does it mean that He chose us and appointed us to bear fruit? What does Jesus mean by **“fruit”** in this context? How can we apply this verse to our daily lives?

In the first part of the verse, Jesus declares that we did not choose Him, but He chose us. This is a fundamental truth of the Christian faith: *salvation is a divine gift, not a reward that we earn through our own merit*. It was God who took the initiative to redeem us and reconcile us to Him through the work of Jesus on the cross. Divine election is an expression of God’s love and grace toward us, even when we do not deserve it.

In the second part of the verse, Jesus tells us that He chose us to go and bear fruit. What do you mean by **“fruit”**? Fruit is often used as a metaphor in the Bible to describe the tangible results of living a God-directed life. This can include righteous deeds, converting sinners, making disciples, and personal spiritual growth.

So fruit is anything we do as Christians that has a positive and lasting result.

Furthermore, Jesus adds that this fruit is to remain. That is, our actions and efforts are to have a long-term impact on people’s lives and on the expansion of God’s kingdom. This is not about doing good deeds just to feel good temporarily, but about working diligently in God’s plan and leaving an everlasting mark on the world.

Finally, Jesus tells us that whatever we ask the Father for in His name, He will give it to us. This is a powerful and comforting promise for any believer. The key to this promise is that we are to ask in Jesus’ name. This means that our requests are to be in line with His will and purpose. This is not about asking for selfish or unnecessary things, but about seeking the well-being and blessing of others.

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> I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.
> *— Philippians 3:14*

Book: New Testament / Philippians

Topics: calling, Jesus, reward

Interpretation:
In *Philippians 3:14*, the apostle *Paul* tells us to press toward the goal and prize of the upward call of God *in Christ Jesus*. This verse is in the context of a larger discussion about how our goal as Christians is to know Christ and receive His righteousness. But what exactly does that mean, and how can we apply it to our daily lives?

Seeking God's will

To understand what it means to *"follow God's call,"* we must first seek God's will for our lives. This is a process in which we pray and draw near to God to discover what His plan is for us. Once we understand His will, we can begin to pursue that goal with all of our being. Instead of simply doing what we want in our own strength, we should focus on what God wants for us and pursue it with all of our hearts. Not only will this bring us into a closer connection with God, but it will also give us a greater sense of purpose and direction in life.

The reward of God's call

The *"win the prize"* that Paul speaks of in this verse is the reward for following God's will for our lives. This reward is not material gain, but a deeper connection *with Christ* and a life of spiritual abundance. Following God's call will enable us to experience His love and grace in a much deeper and more meaningful way. This will allow us to grow in faith and knowledge *of God's Word* and lead us to a fuller, more satisfying life.

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> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
> *— Romans 8:28*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: calling, God, love

Interpretation:

Romans 8:28 is one of the most recognizable and quoted verses in the Bible. It tells us that everything that happens to those who love God works together for good, and this includes those who are called according to His purpose.

This verse reminds us that even though we often cannot understand the events that happen to us, we can be confident that God has a purpose for each of them.

Our choice to love God

This verse talks about the importance of loving God. Choosing to love God is one of the most important decisions we can make in our lives. By acknowledging His love for us and choosing to love Him in return, we open the door to experiencing His grace and help at all times.

The phrase *“loving God”* suggests that love is a conscious choice, not just a passing feeling.

Not all things are good, but God uses them for good

It is important to note that this verse does not say that everything that happens to us is good. On the contrary, we often face difficult situations, such as loss, illness, or interpersonal conflict.

However, this verse assures us that, no matter what, God can use these circumstances for our good. Not necessarily in the sense that the situation itself is good, but in the sense that we can learn, grow, and draw closer to God in the midst of suffering.

A call to trust God

This verse mentions that God calls those according to His purpose. This suggests that God has a specific plan for each of us. But often we are lost, not knowing what our purpose is or where we should go.

Romans 8:28 reminds us that even if we don’t understand everything that is happening, we can be confident that God is always working for our good and that His purpose will always be better than any plan we could come up with on our own.

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