

The Ordinary into the Extraordinary

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Life Group Discussion – March 31st, 2019

When you look at the 12 disciples, they were regular men. They weren't like the Pharisees who were the leaders of the society and they weren't particularly gifted or smart. But when they met Jesus Christ and experienced His ministry, His death, and His resurrection, they were filled with the Holy Spirit and their ordinary lives became extraordinary.

So how do we become like so many in the Bible who were transformed from the ordinary into the extraordinary? From this passage we will see how to change our hearts, our minds, and our lives.

1. You need to receive a calling

But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are. (1 Corinthians 1:27-28)

Everything starts when God calls you. We cannot change on our own abilities or with our own mindpower, true and lasting transformation will only come from the power of God. This calling is not because we fulfill certain rules or obligations, it's when we begin to understand the grace of God and the sacrifice of what Jesus did for us.

2. You need to receive a new name from God

Peter's name was originally Simon. This was a very common name back then but when Jesus calls out to him, He changes Simon's name to Peter.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter). (John 1:42)

The reason Jesus gave Peter a new name was because Peter would still be a rock even when the world would shake. Jesus knew there was going to be a time when He was gone from the world and a leader needed to be strong, and so Jesus gave Peter this name to encompass that calling.

3. You need to be filled with the Holy Spirit

It was when the ordinary disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit that their lives became extraordinary.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:1-4)

When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, your actions and your words begin to change. The places you are begin to fill with joy and happiness simply because of you being there.

Being filled with the Holy Spirit is one of the most wonderful things that can happen in our lives. We can overcome any difficulty and go through good and bad times with faith.

It is through these three things that our lives can change from the ordinary into the extraordinary. This is what I hope for Shining Star, that we would be a church that would be filled with ordinary people changed by the Holy Spirit to become extraordinary.

SHARING-----

1. If you were to receive a new name, what name would you want? In other words, what meaning behind the name would you want for yourself if you could choose? This can be a biblical name or a secular name.
2. Has there been a time when you felt like you were filled with the Holy Spirit? Was your life different during that time or your attitude different than it was before? Please share.
3. Was there a part of the sermon that spoke to you most? Please share.