

Round Rock Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRY: 2018-19 Study
JUST WOMEN: The Church on a Mission
Study Guide for 11 May 2020

Disciples Women celebrate, embrace, and encourage God's call to women, "empowering each woman to find her voice and live out her call." If it is not a call to "vocational ministry," is it still a call? This study is a biblical look at women who probably have asked the same question.

Lesson: God's Wisdom

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Lesson Summary: God's wisdom, demonstrated through the cross, calls each of us into service, despite our weaknesses and limitations. Moreover, God's mission calls us to serve those on the margins, where worth is measured by God's standards rather than human standards.

Prepare for the study:

1. Read the scripture and answer the questions below.
2. As you read, consider the background: The scripture is from a letter written by the Apostle Paul to the church at Corinth. As Luther explained it: *Paul expects the Corinthians to be one in faith and love, and to see to it that they learn well the chief thing, namely, that Christ is our salvation, the thing over which all reason and wisdom stumble. Things got so wild and disorderly that everyone wanted to be the expert and do the teaching and make what he pleased of the gospel, the sacrament, and faith. They let the main thing drop - that Christ is our salvation, righteousness, and redemption. The truth can never remain intact when people begin to imagine they are wise and know it all.*

Questions to ponder as you read the scripture:

1. Paul writes to the church, "Consider your own call" (v. 26) and asserts that God often calls those we least expect.
 - **How have you experienced God's call in your life?**
 - **Did you feel equipped to respond at the time?**
2. Just as God calls those we least expect, He also calls us to serve those on the margins.
 - **What are the margins of our society today?**
 - **How is our congregation serving those on the margins?**
3. The World Council of Churches statement on mission and evangelism says: "Mission is not a project of expanding churches but of the church embodying God's salvation in this world."
 - **What does a "church embodying God's salvation in this world" look like?**
 - **How would the ministries of a church shaped by Christ be different from those of a church focused on expanding?**