

God's Man

1 Cor. 1:10-2:5

What does it take to be a good man? A successful man? A secure man? A humble man? A devoted man? A Godly man? Or a happy man? All these things are characteristic of Jesus Christ, but may not be characteristic of you or me. Why or why not? Can we be all these things? Or are these things the "elusive butterfly" we all search for? I believe that there are four things a man must possess before he can even hope to be any of these things.

1. **God's Man** - vs. 1:10-17; 1 Thes 5:13-16 We read here that Paul makes it very clear that it is not he himself, nor anyone else that has given us reason to glory. But it was only Christ that died on the cross and it is in His name that we are baptized. It is God's power not ours that brings salvation. Paul knew that he was called to preach. Not to sing or to usher, or anything else, just preach. He was just a messenger, just like the others.
2. **God's Message** - vs. 1:18-25; Gal 6:14 The message is simple. Jesus Christ crucified, plus nothing else. That is the only message that Paul knew and the only message that he could preach. John 3:16 is the only message that we have to tell to a lost world. It is a problem for a lot of people. The Jews don't like it and don't believe it, and the Gentiles think it is foolish. They think it is for child's play. Just like today.
3. **God's Mind** - vs. 1:26-31; Jer 9:23-24 Paul said in Phil. 2:5, "Let this mind be in you, which is also in Christ Jesus. . ." In other words, "have the mind of Christ in you at all times." God is shown here to deliberately mix things up, by taking the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and the weak things to shame the strong. God did this for a purpose, so we couldn't brag. The mind of Christ.
4. **God's Method** - vs. 2:1-5; 1 Cor 9:19 We each have our spiritual gifts and our gift of ministry. We are to exercise all that we are within God's plan. The method of preaching for Paul was real casual, and not oratorical in delivery. He did not want anything to interfere with the simplicity of the gospel. He wanted men to believe only God could save them and not his spiritual greatness.