**John 15:16**

**5/22/19**

**Intro –**

**(Slide 2)**

**How Many Of You Were Ever Involved With, Or Participated In, A Game Of Pick-Up Basketball?**

**How Were The Teams Determined?**

**(Slide 3)**

**How Many Of You Are Familiar With Fantasy Football?**

**How Does It Work? *(Each Week Of The Season You Select A Team Of NFL Players That You Think Will Produce The Best Stats, So That, You Will Have A Higher Score Than Others In Your League)***

**When It Comes To Pick-Up Basketball, Or Fantasy Football, What Is The Objective You Have In Mind As You Consider, Which Players To Pick? *(You Want The Best Players On Your Team)***

**(Slide 4)**

**Tonight, We Will See How God’s Team Is Formed; And As Might Be Expected, His Philosophy In Team Selection Is Completely Different Than Ours!**

**1. V. 16a – What Is Jesus’ Opening Statement To The Disciples In Verse 16?**

**2. First, I Want Us To Think About How Contrary This Statement Is, Compared To How We Generally Think Of The Dynamic Between God And A Sinner That Leads To Salvation. How Is The Transaction Between A Sinner And God Usually Stated? *(A Sinner “Chooses” To Come To Jesus)***

**3. We Even Have A Cliché To Describe This Dynamic…**

**(Slide 5)**

“I Made God My Choice!

**4. For A Moment, Let’s Go Back To Our Examples Of Pick-Up Basketball, And Fantasy Football. Do The Team Members Choose The Captain, Or Does The Captain Choose The Team Members?**

**5. Then Why Would We See The Dynamic As Working Differently, When It Comes To God’s Team?**

**6. In Verse 16, To Whom Is Jesus Directly Speaking? *(11 Disciples)***

**What Do We Know About Some Of The Group In The Room? *(Peter – James/John – Thomas, Etc.)***

**7. Perhaps A Part Of Our Problem With This Whole Notion, Rests In The Fact That We Know There Is Nothing In Us To Make Us A Desirable Choice!**

**8. The Question Then, Is This: If God Wants A Winning Team – A Team That Will Do His Will – Fulfill His Mission, Why Would He Dare Choose, *Less Than The Best*?**

**9. V. 16b – What Is The Next Thing Jesus Says To This Group Of “Less Than The Best?”**

**10. The Reason God Can Choose The Most *Frail*, *Weak*, And *Flawed* Group Of People, Is Because Of This Single, Great, Truth:**

**(Slide 6)**

Those, Whom He Chooses, He Also Ordains/Anoints/Empowers, To Do His Will!

II Corinthians 4:7

I Corinthians 1:26-28

I Corinthians 1:29

**10. Embracing This Truth Erases Any Temptation Of Spiritual Pride!**

**11. V. 16c – Look At The Next Line (Read).**

**To “Go Forth” Or To “Go,” Speaks Of Embarking On Our Mission, Which Will Be Productive.**

**12. What Would Eventually Be The Mission Of The 11 Men, To Whom Jesus Spoke?**

**13. All, Who Are Chosen By God, Are Likewise Commissioned To “Go Forth.” Perhaps, Not As *Church Planters* – But We All Have A Commission!**

**14. The Good News Is, However, Whatever We Are Commissioned To Do – God Ordains – Anoints – Empowers Us To Do It. *(Take A Moment And Think About What Your Calling – And Consider That You Do Not Have To Do It In Your Own Strength!)***

**15. V. 16d – God Has Promised To Not Only Watch Over And Preserve *Us* When We Are Faithful In Serving Him, But According To The Next Part Of Verse 16, What Else? *(Our Work)***

* ***Godly Husband/Wife/Parent***
* ***Witness On Job***
* ***Intercessor***
* ***Charity Worker***
* ***Giver***

**16. V. 16e – Jesus, Now, Doubles Down On A Most Remarkable Statement He Made Earlier *(15:7).* What Is It?**

**17. How Can Jesus Make Such A “Blanket” – Seemingly “Unqualified” - “Blank Check” Statement?**

**18. What Often Comes To Peoples Mind When They Hear These Words, Is The “Genie In A Bottle” Idea.**

**(Slide 7)**

*(Photo)*

**19. (*Employer/Employee Example)***

**20. This Is An Incredibly Blessed Promise – *Anything* – *Whatever* We Need To Accomplish Our Mission For God – All We Have To Do Is Ask The Father, And For Jesus’ Sake – *It Shall Be Done!***