

"People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." – 1 Samuel 16:7c NLT

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."  
– James 4:6b NLT

"Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say." – Exodus 4:12 NLT

For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."  
– Romans 10:13 NLT

**Saying "YES" to Jesus?** Let us know by checking in on the app, double-circling "say yes" on your Check-In card, or text YES to 603-225-2550. Let us celebrate your decision with you & resource you for your new life in Christ with the booklet devotional "You Said Yes."

## LIVE IT OUT

Answer these questions on your own or preferably with others to reflect upon and apply what you've heard.

1. Which part of today's message stood out to you and why?
2. List some of the ways the cast of the Christmas story didn't meet the expectations some might have.
3. Who or what have you ruled out that God might be ruling in?

## 3 CORNERSTONE TOP THREE

Find the Top Three on the top of our app's opening screen (& linked from our home page). [CornerstoneNH.org/app](https://CornerstoneNH.org/app)

1. **Our Christmas Eve service will be 7 PM on Tuesday, 12/24.** Plan now to show up and invite friends and family.
2. **There are opportunities to serve on Christmas Eve.** Readers and greeters are needed for the Christmas Eve service. Indicate your interest when you check in today.
3. **Find giving options in the app.** See our [2024 Christmas offering gift catalog](#) and choose a gift to give away this Christmas. Your generosity can make a meaningful difference in someone else's life this season and beyond.

## CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mail: PO Box 1011, Concord, NH 03302-1011

Voice or Text: 603-225-2550 • [contactus@cornerstonenh.org](mailto:contactus@cornerstonenh.org)

**Give:** Church Center app or [CornerstoneNH.org/give](https://CornerstoneNH.org/give) or text a dollar amount to 84321

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Get the Church Center app & Check in!** Scan this QR code and you'll go right to Cornerstone's Church Center app. It's the easiest way to Check In, give, find your place to serve, and more!



**Get Online with free WiFi On Site:**

📶 Network: UBC-CONC-NH 🗝 Password: 39F@y3tt3

## YOUR GROWTH GUIDE FOR

**CORNERSTONE ON SITE & CORNERSTONE ONLINE**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

# “Who can be used by God?”

## AN UNEXPECTED CAST

AN UNEXPECTED CHRISTMAS PART FOUR  
[CORNERSTONENH.ORG/UC](https://CornerstoneNH.org/UC) • TODAY: QUALIFICATIONS  
LUKE 1:5-17, 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

*God works through the \_\_\_\_\_  
to accomplish his perfect plan.*

THE BOTTOM LINE

**GOD CASTS A \_\_\_\_\_ WHEN  
HE'S CASTING HIS KINGDOM.**



Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. 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. – 1 Corinthians 1:26-27 NIV

**memorize with [remem.me](https://remem.me)**

The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. – 1 Corinthians 1:18 NLT

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.  
– 1 Corinthians 1:25 NIV

Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.  
– Corinthians 1:26 NIV

As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.  
– 1 Corinthians 1:29 NLT

**God's \_\_\_\_\_ makes our  
\_\_\_\_\_ irrelevant.**



*"Not many of you were wise..." Think "missing the mark." God constantly takes people who are getting it wrong and puts them right at the center of his plans.*

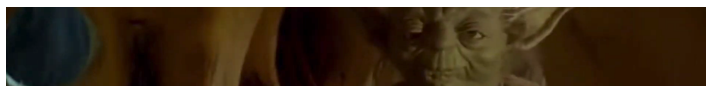
..."Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John. – Luke 1:13 NLT

Then the angel said, "I am Gabriel! I stand in the very presence of God. It was he who sent me to bring you this good news! But now, since you didn't believe what I said, you will be silent and unable to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly be fulfilled at the proper time."  
– Luke 1:19-20 NLT

When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"  
– Mark 2:16 NIV

When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners." – Mark 2:17 NLT

**God's \_\_\_\_\_ makes our  
\_\_\_\_\_ irrelevant.**



*"Not many of you were influential..." Only one voice matters when you're hearing You're too this or not enough that.*

They had no children because Elizabeth was unable to conceive, and they were both very old. – Luke 1:7 NLT

God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. – Luke 1:26b-27a NLT

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. – 1 Timothy 4:12 NIV

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. – Luke 2:8 NLT

**God's \_\_\_\_\_ makes our  
\_\_\_\_\_ irrelevant.**



*"Not many were of noble birth." His name matters, not ours.*

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?"  
– Matthew 2:1-2a NIV

Boaz was the father of Obed (whose mother was Ruth).  
Obed was the father of Jesse. – Matthew 1:5b NLT

So they offered the sacrifice required in the law of the Lord—"either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."  
– Luke 2:24 NLT

God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin.  
– 1 Corinthians 1:30 NLT

Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord." – 1 Corinthians 1:31 NLT

NEXT STEPS

**DON'T RULE OUT \_\_\_\_\_ OR  
\_\_\_\_\_ THAT SHOWS UP ON  
GOD'S CALL SHEET.**