

# Man God Uses

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 1:14-16.

B. Paul reveals how he became a usable instrument of God.

## II. Paul was under obligation.

A. Paul is not motivated by some humanitarian impulse.

B. Paul had a hunger to be used by God consistently and continually.

C. Many want to be used by God to enhance their reputation.

D. Selfishness must be broken in us to be truly used by God.

E. Paul counted on four things to make his life a success before Christ: (Philippians 3)

1. His ancestry.

2. His orthodoxy.

3. His zealous spirit.

4. His morality.

F. Jesus sent Paul into isolation so that he could learn to count all things he had counted on before as trash in order that he might gain Christ.

G. The first great secret of the Christian life is to stop depending upon yourself and depending upon God within. (Galatians 2:20)

## III. Paul was eager to preach the gospel.

A. He was motivated and therefore committed.

B. The Christian life takes some adventuring and risking.

C. We need to be ready to step into it—the Christian life is not one of waiting for God to give us guidance even though He does guide us.

## IV. Paul was not ashamed of the gospel.

A. There is nothing like it in the world.

B. Nothing else can tame human hearts like the gospel.

1. It is universal in its appeal.
2. It is hopeful in its result.
3. It is mighty in its power. It needs no additives.
4. It is simple in its acceptance.

**Application questions:**

1. What things have you counted on in the past that you learned were of no value before God?

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2. What role does motivation play in the Christian life? What are some wrong motives that Christians have today?

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3. Why is the gospel so profound? Can you think of some other reasons why this message has been so powerful throughout the ages?

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