

Meditations on the Message

Sunday: January 24, 2016; *No Longer Merely Human*

Text: **1 Corinthians 3**

Re-read the above text and consider the following thoughts and questions:

Who wants to be "*merely human*", or even "*infants in Christ*" (3:1-4), when we have been "*sanctified in Christ Jesus*", "*called to be saints*" and "*enriched in Him*" (1:1-9)?

What makes a believer in Jesus return to thinking and living as they did before they were saved? In other words; when a new life in relationship with God has been given (that's what we have been saved unto), why the return to the old life marked by merely human behavior?

From the text (1 Cor. 1-3), what encouragement and hope is available for us to mature and grow up in Christ?

What connotations come to mind when you think through the designations that Paul gives to the believers: You are God's field; God's building; God's temple?

Points made from Sunday's message:

- There are people who work in God's field, but God makes the field produce. The workers don't produce life or cause growth. God does.

- There are people who work on God's building, but God inspects the quality of the work and rewards the worker according to his labor. The building doesn't judge the building material or the quality of the work. God does.

- God's Spirit dwells in God's temple, and God's people are God's temple. God's temple is holy.

In all these illustrations, the point is: God is the One Who matters. We boast in the LORD - not in the field workers, or the construction workers, or even in the temple, itself. Don't substitute anyone for God's rightful place.

The family that gathers at Immanuel Bible Church is one of great diversity of person, personalities and preferences. Consider the unique diversity that exist, and then remember what unites us and makes us one. Consider again the message of the following verses: 1 Corinthians 1:30-31; & 3:21-22.