♦SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, June 5, 2011

"USEFUL TO GOD"

(Acts 9:1-17)

Could God use you in His great work in this world? Most people are skilled at reciting their many shortcomings and disquailifiers for being involved in ministry and mission for the Lord. God says that you are usable and useful.

"I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well" (Psalm 139:14, NASB

"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27, NIV).

1. The person God uses must be a of the Body of Christ.
2. The person God uses may be a very
3. The person God uses must be living a
4. The person God uses must be
5. The person God uses must be full of
6. The person God uses must be
7. The person God uses must be able to

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"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27, NIV).

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8, NIV).

1. The person God uses must be a <u>member</u> of the Body of Christ.

2. The person God uses may be a very <u>unlikely person</u>.

"Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important" (1 Corinthians 1:26-28, NLT).

3. The person God uses must be living a dedicated life.

"A man named Ananias came to see me. He was a devout observer of the law and highly respected by all the Jews living there" (Acts 22:12, NIV).

"to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive" (Titus 2:10, NIV).

4. The person God uses must be available to God.

5. The person God uses must be full of **Christ-like love**.

6. The person God uses must be well-informed.

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:14, NIV).

"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15, NIV).

7. The person God uses must be able to <u>lead others into blessing</u>.