

Leader: The Word of the LORD!      Congregation: *Thanks be to God!*

**Gospel Exhortation: “Insignificant in the World's Eyes; Favored by God”**

Introduction: \_\_\_\_\_ people are largely lowly, \_\_\_\_\_, marginalized, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the world's eyes (26-27, 34).

1. Since God gathers to Himself those the world \_\_\_\_\_ and deems “\_\_\_\_\_,” get \_\_\_\_\_ with this (that you are *that* to the \_\_\_\_\_).  
  
We are outsiders who don't fit in, and bear the “\_\_\_\_\_” of Mary and Jesus (26, 27, Hebrews 13:13).
2. Realize that God has \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ out to be His people, largely: those who are \_\_\_\_\_ in the world's eyes (26-28, Ephesians 1:4-5, 1 Corinthians 1:26-29).
3. Realize that it is individuals who are insignificant in the world's eyes to whom God gives His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (28, 29, Ephesians 2:8-9, James 4:6).
  - a. I was \_\_\_\_\_ to be associated with Jesus; \_\_\_\_ did not choose this myself (28, 29, 38, Ephesians 1:4).
  - b. I received God's favor and grace apart from any \_\_\_\_\_ of mine or \_\_\_\_\_ within me (34, 38, Romans 3:10-11, Titus 3:5).
  - c. This grace includes the \_\_\_\_\_ of my sins (24:47, Ephesians 1:7).
  - d. This grace includes life with God's \_\_\_\_\_ for all \_\_\_\_\_ future (33, 1 John 5:11-12).
4. Realize that it is to those who are insignificant in the world's eyes (to those in His Church) that God \_\_\_\_\_ (28).
  - a. To the lowly ones of the Church, He speaks the \_\_\_\_\_ of a \_\_\_\_\_ who regards them \_\_\_\_\_, in life and in death (32-33, 8:10, 1 Corinthians 1:18).
  - b. To these same lowly ones He speaks His \_\_\_\_\_ (the Bible), to give them wisdom in life (Romans 12:2, 1 Corinthians 1:18-21, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 1:1-2, 4:12).
5. Realize that it is to the insignificant in the world's eyes (us, the Church) that God gives His Holy \_\_\_\_\_ (and that He is \_\_\_\_\_) (35, 1 Corinthians 3:16, Luke 3:21-22).
6. Know that at death and at Jesus' return, the despised-of-the-world Church (and I in it) will be \_\_\_\_\_ and that the world's significant will be thrown \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 5:5-6, Matthew 25:46, Luke 16:25, Matthew 5:5).
7. If you're \_\_\_\_\_ in the world's eyes (if you're Theophilus, 1:3), yet a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Church:
  - a. Recognize my significance in the world's eyes matters \_\_\_\_\_ in the Church nor to \_\_\_\_\_ (26-27, 1 Corinthians 1:19, 21, Isaiah 53:3).
  - b. Be joyfully \_\_\_\_\_ and reverently \_\_\_\_\_ that God broke His pattern to \_\_\_\_\_ me (Matthew 19:23, 1 Peter 5:6).
  - c. Understand that in God's kingdom, I'm an \_\_\_\_\_ with all the other members (1 Corinthians 12:21-22, James 1:10-11).
8. Treat \_\_\_\_\_ in the Church those who are insignificant in the world's eyes (because God has) (1 Corinthians 12:23-24, John 4:1-27, Matthew 26:6-13).

Conclusion: The account of Mary shows us that the \_\_\_\_\_ is a group that the \_\_\_\_\_ deems \_\_\_\_\_, and to be despised. I'm to understand that “that's how it \_\_\_\_\_” in this life, to see the many ways that God \_\_\_\_\_ me, nonetheless, and to treat “the insignificant” of the Church with \_\_\_\_\_, as God did with \_\_\_\_\_.