

## God's Measuring Tape

**Read** 2 Corinthians 10: 7-18

1. Review the story of the chicken and pig for any who missed it.
2. Verse 7 speaks about "looking only on the surface of things".
  - a. What is Paul thinking about here?
  - b. Are there any problems with only looking at the "surface of things" and if so what are they?
  - c. The preacher suggested that superficial believers are "chicken Christians" & quoted Phil Moore : -  
"Chicken Christians give Sunday mornings to God and then go home reflecting on whether the worship helped them, whether the preaching entertained them, whether the congregation were friendly to them and why their own Christian lives appear so dull. Mature Christians sacrifice everything to use the few short years they have on earth in this landscape picture of salvation".
    - How would you describe the difference between Chicken and mature Christians?
    - Are there any challenges in this quote to you personally?
    - On a scale of chicken at 1 and pig at 10, where would you place yourself? You do not need to tell anyone, but it may be helpful to speak to Jesus about it.
3. In verse 12 Paul discusses "they measure themselves by themselves..."
  - a. Why does he say that "they are not wise"? Surely we should know ourselves!
  - b. Vic reminded the congregation that God's purpose for the Church here was to be "like an oak tree that changes the landscape". How does an oak tree change the landscape?
  - c. He then quoted: "The roots of the English oak tree go down deeper into the soil than its highest branches tower above it, and they go out two or three times wider than the radius of its leaves. That's why the English oak can live for over a 1,000 years and its wood is one of the strongest in the world" and asked how oak-like are we
    - i. as individuals?
    - ii. as a Church?
    - iii. in regards to our secret (root forming and root working) practices of prayer & worship & bible reading. (CLUE: How we react to troubles and storms. Do we just keel over?)

Is this something you/we should pay attention to in the coming year and if so how and will you/we?

God bless and have a God-filled NEW YEAR.      Vic