

## Dan's Devotion: America's Got Talent

Maybe some of you follow the show "America's Got Talent." My family started watching it this season and it was pretty interesting. There were definitely some extremely talented people on the show and some that really weren't so talented. The guy that won the whole competition and a million dollars was named Kevin Skinner. He is a country singer and a former chicken catcher from Kentucky.

The winner is decided by fans that call in and cast their votes. I think Kevin became a sentimental fan favorite because he was from very humble circumstances and was definitely a huge underdog. People love underdogs. The crazy thing about it is that I don't think Kevin was even close to the most talented person in the contest. In fact, he sang a little off tune most of the time, but I guess he was able to steal the hearts of America.

Jesus was all about underdogs. Look at his disciples. They weren't exactly the "elite" men of the Jewish faith. They didn't have prestigious jobs, they weren't all well respected, but Jesus saw something in them. This passage sums up pretty well how Jesus came here for everyone including the underdogs:

*<sup>9</sup>As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.*

*<sup>10</sup>While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" came and ate with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" <sup>12</sup>On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: I desire mercy, not sacrifice, for I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Matthew 9:9-13*

Maybe you feel at times that you don't have a lot of talent that can be used for God or you don't fit in with the "super" Christians around you. First of all, there are no "super" Christians in God's eyes. Basically, there are followers of Christ and those who aren't Christ followers. And I want to remind you that Jesus came here for people like you. He knows your heart and if your heart is in the right place, he can definitely use you because Jesus is all about underdogs.

Hang in there brothers and sisters in Christ,

Dan

P.S.- Speaking of underdogs, I'm pretty sure that next year will be the year for the Cubs.