

God Has His Own Ways

Overview

Most Christians – at one time or another – have wondered about the choices Jesus made in the selection of His Apostles. These men were to be the most important to be gathered around Him as they were to be the ones who would carry on after He left this earthy sojourn. I spent many years in the industrial world before retiring a few years ago and often found it necessary to build up a staff. I looked at resumes and conducted extensive interviews. However, I can tell you that I often still went by my intuition – or gut feel when making a decision on a candidate.

We do things differently than God does and look for different values than He would. Too often, we look at appearances and formal training rather than the person. I can tell you that some of my very best employees were not college graduates – nor the best dressed. What would have happened if Jesus had the same formal management consulting tools than I may have used. Can you imagine Jesus hiring a management consultant and asking them to evaluate His potential Apostles? The following “memo” is a tongue-in cheek account of what likely would have resulted.

TO: Jesus, Son of Joseph
Woodcrafter Carpenter Shop
Nazareth

FROM: Jordan Management Consultants - Jerusalem

Dear Sir:

Thank you for submitting the resumes of the twelve men you have picked for management positions in your new organization. All of them have now taken our battery of tests; we have not only run the results through our computer, but also arranged personal interviews for each of them with our psychologist and vocational-aptitude consultant.

It is the staff opinion that most of your nominees are lacking in background, education, and vocational aptitude for the type of enterprise you are undertaking. They do not have the team concept. We would recommend that you continue searching for persons of experience in managerial ability and proven capability.

Simon Peter is emotionally unstable and given to fits of temper. Andrew has absolutely no leadership qualities. The two brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, place personal interest above company loyalty. Thomas demonstrates a questioning attitude that would tend to undermine morale. We feel it is our duty to tell you that the Greater Jerusalem Better Business Bureau has blacklisted Matthew. James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus definitely have radical leanings, and both registered a high score on the manic-depressive scale.

One of the candidates, however, shows great potential. He is a man of ability and resourcefulness, meets people well, has a keen business mind, and has contacts in high places. We recommend Judas Iscariot as your controller and right-hand man.

We wish you every success in your new venture.

Sincerely yours,

Jordan Management Consultants