

# The Power Of One

I remember a civics class during my High School days. The teacher tried to impress the importance of voting. He used the Kennedy/Nixon election in 1960 to point out how every vote counts. If one more person in each precinct voted for Nixon, he would have won. In 2000, we had an election that truly boggles the mind. New Mexico was decided by less than 300 votes, Florida was a nail biter as the votes were counted and recounted (remember the "hanging chads?") and was decided by 537 votes out of a total of an approximate 5,800,000 votes cast. You may wonder why am I using this space to talk about past elections?

One person can and does make a difference. God has always used individuals to do His will. Abraham was chosen to become the father of Israel and through his lineage would come Jesus. Joseph was God's instrument to bring Jacob and his family from Canaan to Egypt, to save them from the famine, and make of them a great nation. Joseph did not shirk his responsibility but served God even though he was away from home and family. God used Moses to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt. At first Moses tried to pass the buck. He claimed he could not speak eloquently but God would not accept his excuse. Rahab was willing to stand WITH God rather than the people of Jericho. David as a young man was willing to stand before Goliath. The extra tall Philistine was not killed by a great army but by one God, and one young man with a stone. We could mention Jonah who was sent to Nineveh and many other great prophets who proclaimed God's word to hostile kings and peoples. Hebrews 11 mentions individuals who lived by faith. Not to mention the spreading of the Gospel in Acts was done by individuals preaching the word of God.

1 Corinthians 12 describes the church as a body. "For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12) The body does not exist without its members and each member has a function. Each person who comprises this congregation is important. Unfortunately, some Christians do not see their own importance or responsibilities. They may not ask the question, "What can I do?" Some seem to think the church will function without their personal involvement. That is simply not true. For any congregation to have good Bible Classes there must be Bible Class teachers and students. For there to be "good singing" there must be song leaders and followers. The same goes for preachers, elders, and deacons as those roles are filled by individuals.

One person may be the difference between error taught or the truth being proclaimed. One person may convert one lost sinner who in turn may convert another. The power of one should never be underestimated.

We need more individuals who want to serve God. Elijah asked the people of Israel to either serve God or the Baals but the people did not answer. "And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will

you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." (1 Kings 18:21).  
But the people answered him not a word. Let us always answer the call to serve God. - - Dennis Tucker