

## Jesus chooses the most unlikely among us

### A Gospel Reflection by Brian Wigger

If Jesus had sent his 12 disciples for psychologist testing, the reply He would have received from the psychologist may have gone something like this:

Thank you for submitting the resumes of the twelve men you have picked for managerial positions in your new organization. All of them have taken a battery of tests. Having arranged personality interviews for each of them and given a vocational aptitude interview with our consultant, it is the opinion of the staff that most of your nominees are lacking in background, education, and vocational aptitude for the enterprise. It appears they have no team concept.

Simon Peter is emotionally unstable and given to fits of temper. Andrew has no qualities for leadership. The two brothers, James and John, place personal interest above company loyalty. Thomas shows a skeptical attitude that would tend to undermine morale. Matthew has been blacklisted by the Jerusalem Better Business Bureau. James and Thaddeus, definitely have radical leanings, and registered a high score on the manic-depressive scale. One of the candidates, however, shows real potential. He is a man of ability and resourcefulness, meets people well, and has contacts in high places. He is highly motivated, ambitious, and responsible. We recommend Judas Iscariot as your controller and right-hand man.

Jesus called his apostles, and they weren't who we might consider to be likely candidates.

Today Jesus calls us. Like Peter we lack faith. Like Andrew we have much to learn. Like James and John we are selfish sometimes. Like Thomas we doubt sometimes. Seeing that the apostles of limited competence did so much for the Church gives confidence to us. If Jesus could use them, he can certainly use us. With the intercession of Jesus for us at the right hand of the Father and by our spending time in prayer with the Lord, we too can grow from strength to strength and accomplish great things for God and his kingdom.