

Day

American Idol or Idle American?

4

Read - Genesis 18:16-33

Reflect - One of TV's top shows last summer (2002) was "American Idol." After weeks of competition, two finalists emerged, Kelly Clarkson and Justine Guarini. Millions of people sat on the edge of their seat as they made the announcement: "And the winner is—Kelly Clarkson." Why would so many people be interested in who won? Because, viewers of the show chose the winner, and everyone wanted to know, "Did I pick the same person that the rest of the world picked?"

Abraham was on a search, trying to find ten righteous people in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. If he could find at least ten, God would spare those cities from His impending judgment. In the end they were not to be found. You know the rest of the story: "Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire..." Genesis 19:24. Did you notice that Sodom and Gomorrah weren't destroyed because of sin alone, but also for a lack of righteousness? There weren't enough righteous people to be found in Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities were destroyed.

God is on His own star search. He is looking for righteous people that He might use to astound the world. 2 Chronicles 16:9 "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him." God is not impressed with your ability, He wants your availability. If you make your heart and life available to God, he will fill you with His righteousness and put you to work in His kingdom.

Respond - God is not looking for ten people to go this summer. He is looking for just one—you. Being on mission with God is not a group activity but an individual response to God. When other individuals like yourself say yes to God, then you will be surrounded by those who choose not to be idle but are also on mission with God.