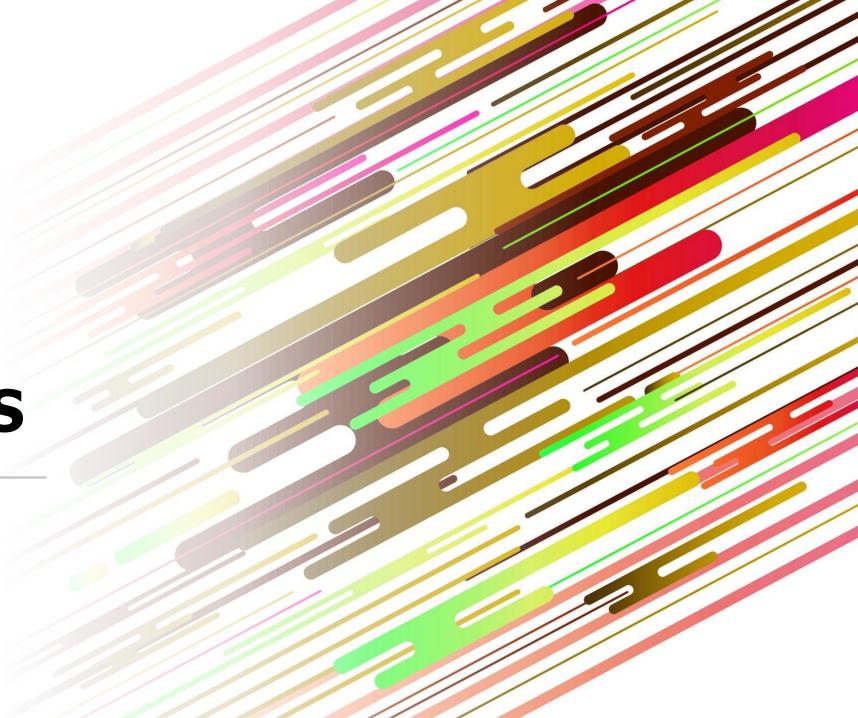
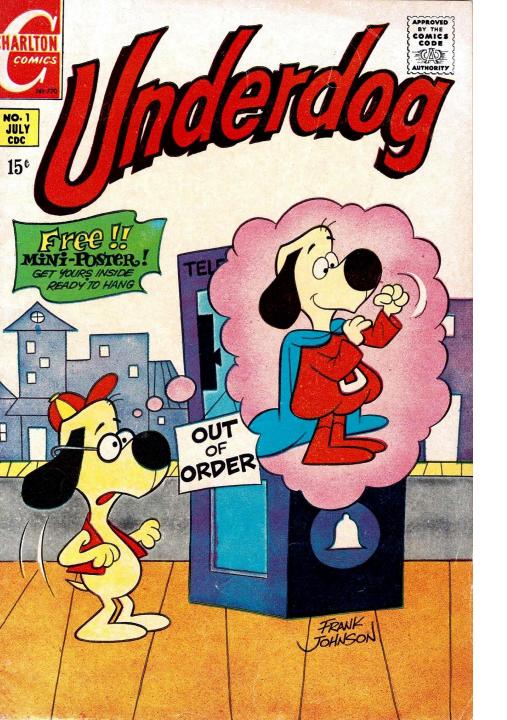
GOD CHOOSES UNDERDOGS

1 Corinthians 1:26-31





Underdog

"underdog" = a competitor
 with little chance of winning

1 Corinthians 1:26-28 (NLT)

• ²⁶ Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. ²⁷ Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. ²⁸ God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important.

1 Corinthians 1:29-31 (NLT)

²⁹ As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. ³¹ Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord."

1 Corinthians 1:23-25

• but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

GOD CHOOSES UNDERDOGS

God Chooses To Use Underdogs Because He Is Glorified (26) God Undermines
The Powerful With
Underdogs
Because He Is
Sovereign (27-29)

God Empowers The Underdog Because He Is Gracious (30-31)

I. God Chooses To Use Underdogs Because He Is Glorified

- God Isn't Impressed
 With A Person's ...
 - Intellect
 - Influence
 - Importance

• ²⁶ Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were **wise** in the world's eyes or **powerful** or **wealthy** when God called you.

II. God Undermines The Powerful With Underdogs Because He Is Sovereign

 By Choosing The Foolish, God
 Confronts Those
 Too Smart For God • ^{27a} Instead, God chose things the world considers **foolish** in order to shame those who think they are wise.

II. God Undermines The Powerful With Underdogs Because He Is Sovereign

 By Choosing The Weak, God Shames
 Those Too Great • ^{27b} And he chose things that are **powerless** to shame those who are powerful.

II. God Undermines The Powerful With Underdogs Because He Is Sovereign

 By Choosing The Lowly, No One Can Boast Greatness In God's Presence • ²⁸ God chose things **despised** by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. ²⁹ As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

III. God Empowers The Underdog Because He Is Gracious

- Christ is the OneWho ...
 - Unites
 - Saves
 - Is Worshipped

30 God has **united** you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from **sin.** ³¹ Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord."

Conclusion

- **1. Be Saved In Christ** Christ gave us our righteousness, sanctification and redemption.
- 2. Be United In Christ Commit to functioning together for Christ's glory, not remaining outside for self-glory.
- **3. Be Used For Christ** God chooses to use you, not because of you, but because of Him. Our best "ability" is our "availability."

Church Membership

- Believe
- Baptized
- Agree
- Apply

