

Upside Down: Treat others the way Jesus treats you.

DAY 1

Jesus First

"He must become more important. I must become less important" (John 3:30 NIV).

When John spoke these words, he was talking about Jesus! It's as if John were saying, "This is about Jesus! He's most important—not me!"

Though John had lots of followers of his own, he encouraged them to follow Jesus instead. John understood that his main job was to point people to Jesus. And that's our main job too, to make Jesus more important than ourselves.

When you love others and put them first,

When you are patient and kind, even when others aren't treating you that way,

When you cheer others on instead of seeking all the credit,

... you point people to Jesus!

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Can you think of someone in your life who doesn't know about Jesus? What is one way you could show that person how much Jesus loves them today?

## DAY 2

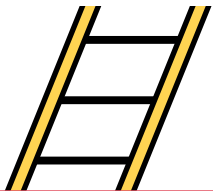
### He Came to Serve

*"Even the Son of Man did not come to be served. Instead, he came to serve others. He came to give his life as the price for setting many people free" (Mark 10:45 NIV).*

Imagine the wealthiest king, sitting on a tall throne. What might happen if that king stepped down from the throne, took off his royal robe and jewel-covered crown, and lined up with the servants instead? That's what Jesus did. He left the beauty and perfection of heaven behind to become like a servant. Jesus chose to put us first.

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Jesus came to serve and give His life to set us free. In the space below, write down three ideas for ways you could serve others tomorrow. Ask Jesus to help you follow through as you become more like Him this week.



DAY 3

Jesus In Me

"I have been crucified with Christ. I don't live any longer, but Christ lives in me. Now I live my life in my body by faith in the Son of God. He loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20 NIrV).

When Paul wrote these words, he wasn't talking about being a better version of yourself. Followers of Jesus take on a whole new identity. Our old self has died. That means we don't have to work hard to make God like us. We don't have to prove ourselves to God to get Him to love us. When you put your trust in Jesus, you trade the "old you" for new life in Christ. It's Christ IN us, living inside us, guiding and helping us to love and care for others.

This week, when you face a situation and you aren't sure what to do, stop and ask Jesus to help you treat others the way HE would treat them.



DAY 4

A Good Work

"God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns" (Philippians 1:6 NIrV).

God is with you. God is with you when you get things right and when you get things wrong. And what's even better, God will finish what He's started. The "good work" this verse talks about is the work of making you more and more like Jesus. You will fail and be forgiven, but with every mistake, you learn.

Write the words "God will finish what He's started" on a strip of paper. Tape that strip to the door frame of your bedroom. Every time you walk out the door, tap that strip, and pray a prayer like this one: "God, show me what You want me to learn today so I can be more and more like Jesus. I love You. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen."

Jesus must increase.
I must decrease.