

GREAT STUFF IN THE BOOK

From the Author	5
Purpose	7
Uses for This Book	8
Practical Hints	9
If You're in a Discipleship Group	10
Personal Commitment	11
1 GET READY ... GET SET!	12
<i>Discovering Jesus' credentials</i>	
2 NO PAIN, NO GAIN	21
<i>Looking at the costs and benefits</i>	
3 WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?	29
<i>Encountering God's greatness</i>	
4 TOTAL CONFIDENCE	39
<i>Growing in faith</i>	
5 ABSOLUTELY TRUE	48
<i>Proving Jesus' claims</i>	
6 GO FOR IT!	58
<i>Changing your attitudes</i>	
7 TURN HIM LOOSE	68
<i>Living in the power of the Holy Spirit</i>	
8 GET IN SHAPE!	79
<i>Throwing off the hindrances</i>	
9 CHANGED AND REARRANGED	89
<i>Changing your life</i>	
10 WHO OWNS YOU?	100
<i>Making your choices</i>	
How to Study a Passage of Scripture	108
Bible Memory Cards	109

GET
READY...
GET
SET!



Discovering Jesus' credentials

This was the first day of practice. At first I felt scared and kind of awkward. But Coach gave us a talk about being a team. You know, after we practiced for a while, it felt pretty good. But I've got a long way to go!

..... **Book Three – Making Jesus Lord**

Can you recall the first day you started something new (a class, a sport, playing a musical instrument, etc.)? How did you feel?

Name one talent you have that you're really proud of.

How long have you been doing it? How did you get to be good at it? Write a short paragraph that describes your learning process from the point you started until now.

Did you learn on your own, or did someone teach you?

Who contributed to your learning process?

COACHING CREDENTIALS

Having Jesus as Lord of your life is kind of like having a teacher or coach to help you. What did Nicodemus say that Jesus was? (John 3:2)

Jesus Christ wants to teach you everything you need to know about

following Him. Why is He qualified to do that? Let's look at His teaching credentials for being Lord of your life.



He Created You

Let's discover how Jesus Christ was in on the creation of the world and, more specifically, your creation.



Read John 1: 1-5, substituting "Jesus Christ," for "the Word" (Jesus is the Living Word of God). Compare Colossians 1:15-16 to John 1:1-5 and describe how Jesus Christ was in on the creation of the world, and more specifically, your creation.



Read Psalm 139:13-16. Since Jesus created you, He knows how you work best. What does Jesus Christ know about you?

**Jesus Christ made you,
and He knows all about you.**



He Identifies with You

Picture in your mind a story where the two main characters are a wicked leader (Evil Ruler) and a brave lad (Fearless Young Man). The people in the country where this story takes place have been starved, cheated, and oppressed by Evil Ruler. Fearless Young Man has grown up under Evil Ruler's reign and decides to save his people by overcoming Evil Ruler.



John 1:14 tells what Fearless Young Man (Jesus) did.
Describe it in your own words.

Jesus Christ came to earth as one of us. Through His death, He crushed Satan's rule on this earth forever. And because He lived here for 33 years, He knows what we go through every day. We can be sure that "we do not have a high priest [Jesus Christ] who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are" (Hebrews 4:15).



Read Luke 4:1-13 and find out how Jesus faced the same temptations you face. What were they?

**Jesus had struggles
just like you have.**



He Redeemed You
Redeemed means to "rescue."



Read 1 Corinthians 6:20; Romans 14:9 to discover how Jesus rescued you?

Another definition for *redeem* is "to recover ownership by paying a specified sum," or "to ransom." If a gang kidnapped your best friend, how much would you pay as a ransom to get him back?



How much of a ransom did Jesus pay for you?

Jesus has paid to regain ownership of your life, so He has the right to be the Lord of your life.

Jesus redeemed you at an expensive price!

JESUS' RESPONSIBILITIES AS LORD

"OK," you say, "I can see that Jesus is qualified to teach me and be Lord of my life, but what is a *lord* supposed to do anyway?" Three Greek words in the New Testament describe Jesus' role as Lord. Let's look at what each one means.

- > **Despotes** (master) - A master had "unlimited power." Jesus has unlimited power over the entire universe. But you have to give Him unlimited power in your life.
- > **Basileus** (monarch) - This word is more commonly used in the Orient to mean "all power and authority." A monarch's word is law. And because Jesus is God, He is always the powerful authority - the Boss. He desires to be the Boss of your life.
- > **Kurios** (lord) - A lord, in this sense of the word, is the "owner." Wisdom and love are suggested in this word. Jesus is not a brutal dictator, but a wise and loving Lord. He wants to handle your life with wisdom and care.

Now let's put all of these ideas together. Keep the meanings of these three words for *lord* in mind, and write your own definition of what it means for Jesus Christ to be Lord.



What does that definition mean to you personally?



Jesus

wants to become Lord in your life. How does that take place?

As you go through these sessions of *Making Jesus Lord*, you will focus on some very specific areas of your life: dating and sex, parents, attitudes, habits, thoughts, friendships, temptation, and material possessions. You will learn how the lordship of Jesus Christ affects each of those areas. You can do two things to get ready to acknowledge Jesus as Lord of your life.

1

Desire

Often desire comes when we get desperate! Psalm 63: 1, "O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You; my soul thirsts for You, my body longs for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water."



Are you to the place where you are tired of running your own life? Are you to the point where you are willing to let go and let God take over?

Moving Toward Maturity Series

The more we see who Jesus really is, the more the desire develops in us to please and worship Him. You will begin to see Jesus more clearly throughout the rest of *Making Jesus Lord*. But right now, evaluate where you stand as far as wanting Jesus to be the Lord of your life:

Are you tired of running your own life? _____ Why?

What things do you know about Jesus that cause you to want to give yourself to Him as Lord?

What doubts do you have about making Jesus the Lord of your life?

Whatever your desires are at this moment, stop right now and pray that God would give you the desire to make Jesus the Lord of your life. Write your prayer here:

Decide



When Paul realized on the road to Damascus who Jesus was, he said: "What shall I do, Lord?" In Acts 22:10 Jesus told him: "Get up and go into Damascus. There you will be told all that you have been assigned

to do". What did Paul do? He decided to obey!



In Acts 26:19-20 look at his response: "I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds".



You need to nail down your own decision to obey! Do it by faith, realizing that He will increase your desire to make Him Lord as time goes by. In your own words, let Jesus know that you have decided to make Him the Lord of your life. After you have committed to make Jesus your Lord, fill out the statement below.

Today, _____ (Date), I asked Jesus to be Lord of my life.

Signed: _____

Complete this session by memorizing Psalm 63:1.



ASSIGNMENT

1. One of your assignments for this week (and throughout this book) is to spend time alone with God every day. Each day read and study a short passage from the Gospel of Mark. This week, during your daily time alone with God, use the following Bible readings. Record your observations in your *Time Alone with God Notebook*.

=====	Order a new <i>Time Alone with God Notebook</i> to help you	=====
=====	continue having focused, powerful times with God every day.	=====
=====	(Order at www.reach-out.org or call 1-800-473-9456.)	=====
=====		=====

Day 1: Mark 1:1-11

Day 2: Mark 1:12-13

Moving Toward Maturity Series

Day 3: Mark 1:14-15

Day 4: Mark 1:16-20

Day 5: Mark 1:21-34

Day 6: Mark 1:35-38

Day 7: Mark 1:39-45

2. Complete *Session 2*.