**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 1: Putting God First as You Follow Him**

Review the video for this session.

**Engage**

Read [Mark 10:17–22](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mk10.17-22).

**Consider**

There was a rich man who approached Jesus because he wanted to find out how to get eternal life. By all appearances, the man seemed to be devoted to following God’s commandments. Immediately, Jesus addressed the one area in the man’s life that wasn’t completely surrendered.

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| **QUESTION**What area in the man’s life was not surrendered to God? |

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| **QUESTION**Why might God address areas of your life that aren’t completely devoted to Him? |

**Reflect**

Being a Christian is about reflecting Jesus in every area, not just the easy or obvious ones.

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| **QUESTION**Is there any area where Jesus is not first place in your life? What is it? |

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| **QUESTION**What steps can you take to surrender this area to Jesus? |

**Activate**

Do your best to memorize [Matthew 6:33](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt6.33) this week. Write it out on a card and place it where you’ll see it each day.

**Pray**

Father, help me to seek Your kingdom above all else. I want to put You first in every area of my life. Help me to show that You are first in all I do. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 2: Putting God First in Your Thoughts**

**Engage**

Read [Colossians 3:1–4](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Col3.1-4); [Philippians 4:8](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Php4.8).

**Consider**

The apostle Paul wrote the first passage above to the church in Colossae while he was in prison in Ephesus. Philippi, the location of the church he wrote to in the second passage, was the first church Paul planted in Europe. In both passages, Paul encouraged Christians to think about things that are godly. He challenged us also to put God first in our thoughts.

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| **QUESTION**What does the first verse say we’re to do when we have new life in Christ? |

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| **QUESTION**Why do you think having a new life in Christ should change our thought patterns? |

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| **QUESTION**How do you focus your thoughts on things that are true or pure? |

**Reflect**

Being a Christian should change not only what we do, but what we think about as well. Thoughts are personal and can hide what we don’t want our church friends to see.

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| **QUESTION**What thoughts do you struggle with the most that could prevent you from making Jesus first in your life? |

**Activate**

Take a moment to pray and ask God to reveal to you if your thought life does not line up with what [Philippians 4:8](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Php4.8) says.

**Pray**

Father God, help me to have pure, honorable, right, lovely, and admirable thoughts throughout my days. Show me when my thought life doesn’t measure up to what You desire for me. Help me to think on things of heaven and to keep You first in my life. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 3: Putting God First in Your Relationships**

**Engage**

Read [Luke 14:25–34](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Lk14.25-34).

**Consider**

In [Luke 14](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Lk14), Jesus was talking to a large crowd who had gathered to listen to Him. He taught them about healing, humility, and the cost of putting Him first above everyone else.

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| **QUESTION**Jesus told the crowd that if they wanted to be His disciple, they must hate everyone else—including family. What do you think Jesus really meant by this? |

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| **QUESTION**Why might Jesus use such a harsh word like hate? |

If you recall, Jesus told us we should love our enemies in [Matthew 5:44](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt5.44). Jesus was suggesting that our commitment to Him should be so strong that our feelings for everyone else should appear weak by comparison.

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| **QUESTION**What did Jesus say we must do to be His disciple? |

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| **QUESTION**Based on how Jesus used the word hate, what do you think He meant when He said we had to give up everything we own? |

**Reflect**

Take a moment to really think about what you are giving up by following Jesus.

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| **QUESTION**Is there any relationship that is holding you back from fully following Jesus as a disciple? |

**Activate**

Take a step toward making your relationship with Jesus the most important one in your life. Write in your journal what you can do to make this reality, and then act on it.

**Pray**

Father God, I want to be Your disciple no matter the cost. Help me to recognize the people in my life who I put before You. Show me if there is any relationship that I need to end. Give me the strength to obey and fully follow You. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 4: Putting God First in Your Life**

**Engage**

Read [Matthew 16:21–28](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt16.21-28); [Romans 12:1–2](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ro12.1-2).

**Consider**

The Jews at the time of Jesus were waiting for a savior who would rescue them from the oppressive Roman government. Some thought Jesus came to do just that. But Jesus had different plans for His life on earth.

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| **QUESTION**What did Jesus say would happen to Him in Jerusalem? ([Matthew 16:21](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt16.21)) |

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| **QUESTION**Jesus reprimanded Peter for distracting Him from His earthly objective and seeing things from a human point of view. What was Jesus’ objective? |

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| **QUESTION**What did Jesus mean in verse [24](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt16.24) when He said, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me”? |

**Reflect**

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| **QUESTION**What do you think it means to give up your body as a living sacrifice for God? |

**Activate**

Sing or listen to a worship song, thanking Jesus for giving up everything for your salvation and for an opportunity to follow Him as His disciple.

**Pray**

Lord Jesus, I worship You! I want to put You first by giving You my entire life. Thank You that when I give my life for Your sake, I will eternally save it. Give me the wisdom to identify any area that holds me back, and then give me the strength to surrender it to You. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 5: Putting God First in Your Heart, Soul, and Mind**

**Engage**

Read [Matthew 22:34–40](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt22.34-40).

**Consider**

In these verses, a religious leader asked Jesus a question in hopes of trapping Him. In His answer, Jesus let everyone know what God expects of us.

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| **QUESTION**What did Jesus say is the most important command? |

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| **QUESTION**How can you love Jesus with all your heart, soul, and mind? |

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| **QUESTION**What does it look like to love our neighbor? |

**Reflect**

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| **QUESTION**How does loving our neighbor show our love for God? |

**Activate**

Do something for a neighbor this week. Mow their grass, shovel their walk, rake their leaves, walk their dog, provide free babysitting, or something similar.

**Pray**
Father God, help me to put You first in my life and love You with all my heart, soul, and mind. Also, help me to love everyone I come into contact with. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.