- 1. "The World Should Revolve Around Me" Little Jackie, S-Curve, 2008
- 2. "It's All about Me" Mya,, Interscope, 1998

THE FOLLOW UP

LIES — PART 3

You have 6 days to get these 4 devos and the Quiet Time Challenge done



For by Christ all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or for Him.

Colossians 1:16

DEVO #1—Created for a Purpose

READ: Psalm 139:14-18; Ephesians 2:1-10

Imagine a weird looking device showing up on your front porch one day without instructions or anything else. Now, you might decide to look it over, maybe even try a couple things. With some dumb luck, you could probably find out a few ways to use the thing. However, there is NO WAY you could get the full benefit of the item without the owner's manual or talking to the item's creator.

It is the same with life. You were created by God. He formed you and made you for a special purpose. However, if you don't consult the owner's manual (that is, the Bible) and talk to your Creator (GOD), you will not fulfill all that God created you to be and do.

- 1. How did God go about creating you according to Psalm 139?
- 2. What were you created for according to Ephesians 2:10?
- 3. How can you know what those "good things" are without God or His Word?

4. What are you doing to keep in regular contact with your Creator?

PRAYER

- ~Thank God for creating you with a great purpose in mind
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, not staying close to Him
- ~Ask God to keep you close to Him and His plan for your life

ADDITIONAL NOTE SPACE

POSSIBLE ACTION STEPS

- Make a list of friends, relatives, classmates, and neighbors that you know need Jesus. Commit to praying for them each day
- ♦ If you haven't asked the Lord to show you where there is too much you and not enough Him, be sure to do so
- ♦ Keep praying at least ten minutes each day
- ♦ Ask the church where you can get involved serving others

QUIET TIME CHALLENGE

NOTE:

The Quiet Time Challenge is NOT a devotional in itself. It is designed for you to do separately apart from your daily devotional time.

HOW IT WORKS:

Find a quiet place with no distractions. Make this between just you and God. Clear your mind then read the Bible verse(s). After doing so, work through the questions. At the end, spend five to ten minutes in "listening mode." Just ask God to speak to you and then be quiet and seek to hear His voice.

PART 1 — READ: Genesis 1:1-5

PART 2 — QUESTIONS

Explain these verses in your own words:

The Bible, and life, begin with God. Where in your life is there too much you and not enough of the Lord?

PART 3 - LISTEN

Ask God to examine your heart. Let Him show you where there is too much you. Then seek to hear His voice speak to your soul. (Feel free to jot down anything you hear.)

DEVO #2 — Wait. It's Not About Me?

READ: Psalm 24: Acts 17:24-28

Read the words of this song that went to #14 on the Billboard Top 200 a few years ago: I believe that the world should revolve around me. I'm to the point of a partnership, it wont be long till I start to trip, Yes sir-ee the world should revolve around $me.^1$

Not to be outdone. This next song went to #6! Its all about me me me me. Forget about you you you you you. So whatcha gonna do do do do?²

It seems the culture would like us to believe that WE are the center of the universe, and life is all about me, myself, and I. However, no human is the center of the universe. That's God's place!

- 1. What does Psalm 24:1 clearly say about who the world revolves around?
- 2. What does Acts 17:25,28 say about what God does?
- 3. Have you been guilty of believing that life should revolve around you?
- 4. What can help you keep God at the center?

PRAYER

- ~Thank God for giving you life, breath, and movement
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, living like you are the center of the universe
- ~Ask God to help you center your life on Him

DEVO #3 — Making Sense of Life

READ: Colossians 1:15-23; Romans 5:6-11

Not too long ago, a youth pastor took a group of kids and teens to a corn maze. They quickly broke up into three groups, with each bragging how their group was going to kick butt and get through the maze first!

Each team was given a map of the maze and were off. Well, mostly off. It seemed the youth pastor's group was hitting a lot of dead-ends and also walking in circles. After several minutes, this pastor discovered the reason. He was holding the map upside down!

Our life can feel a lot like going through a corn maze with an upside down map. We just can't make sense of it. That is why we need Jesus. Only when He is at the center of our lives, turning our map right-side up, does life make any sense.

- 1. After reading Colossians 1:15-23, what is it about Jesus that makes Him the perfect one to center our lives on?
- 2. According to Romans 5, what did Jesus do so that we could experience His presence in our lives?
- 3. What kind of relationship do you have with Jesus? Is He holding your map?
- 4. Who are you making life about? You or Jesus?

PRAYER

- ~Thank Jesus for dying on the cross for your sins
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, holding the map
- ~Ask God to draw you closer and closer to Jesus

DEVO #4 — Raising the Dead

READ: John 11:17-44

Patrick was an outspoken atheist who made headlines when he threatened to sue a Baptist church, unless they took down a public manger scene. However, four months later, he backed out of the suit. Why?

He says after he came down with a rare eye disease, that threatened to leave him blind, he was forced to quit his job. Thankfully, a local group raised money for his family to buy groceries and for him to receive a sight-saving surgery. Who was this group, you ask? Well, it was the same Baptist church he had previously threatened to sue. Pat says he's now a Christian ... and (wait for it) is entering the ministry!

Perhaps, you read John 11 and thought it would be pretty cool to raise the dead. Guess what? You can be involved in spiritually raising people from the dead when you stop living for yourself and start living for others!

- 1. What does Jesus say in verses 11:25-26?
- 2. How are these verses life altering?
- 3. What are ways that you can show and share this message?
- 4. Have you considered inviting any friends, classmates, or neighbors to youth ministry?

PRAYER

- ~Thank Jesus for being able to still raise the dead
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, not being willing to share and show the love and message of Jesus
- ~Ask God to use you to raise people up from the dead