



TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the road?” But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

Mark 9:33-37

All in this together: True greatness

Seth, Nick, and John—three guys I envied.

Seth was the best athlete to ever attend our school. I wanted to run as fast and jump as high as Seth.

Nick was a genius. He got A's on all his tests but studied half the amount of time I did. School came easy to Nick. I wanted to have Nick's brain.

Everyone loved John—especially the girls. He was funny, charming, and good looking. I wanted the same attention that people gave to John.

I thought that if I could just combine these three guys into one person and then become that person, I would be truly great.

God blasted my thought of true greatness. That's what Jesus did to his disciples. They were arguing with each other about who was greater and Jesus said, “Be last! Be a servant.”

From the day of my baptism, I have always believed in Jesus as my Savior. But I never thought about what made him truly great. His path to greatness was not aimed at being on top, but at the very bottom. His desire was to become the greatest servant of all. That's just what he did. He gave up heaven to become a man and then served you by taking your place on the cross. Now that's a great guy!

You can be great, too! You don't need to be an athlete, a genius or gorgeous. You can find many ways to lower yourself and serve others. Start with your family. What can you do this week to be truly great by serving someone in your family?

Athletes get old, brains slow down, and beauty fades. But you can always be great through being a servant no matter where you are in life.

Prayer: Jesus, you showed me what true greatness is by becoming my servant. You lowered yourself so that I could be lifted up. You're awesome. Help me be awesome, too. Convince me that true greatness comes through service. Let me start by serving my family. In your name I pray, Amen.