

# possessed

**Scripture Assignment A:** Matthew 6:19–21, 24–34

**Scripture Assignment B:** 1 Timothy 6:6–10, 17–19

**Scripture Assignment C:** Proverbs 30:7–9; Hebrews 13:5; Philippians 4:12–13

1. Sum up the main message of the verses you've read in a sentence of exactly ten words.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How would you describe the attitude toward possessions that's reflected in these verses? (Good, bad, frivolous, dangerous, irrelevant, powerful, necessary, etc.?)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What do you think is the most challenging statement in those verses?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How would your life be different if you took this challenge? (*Get specific and imaginative here. What would this mean for your relationships, your schooling, your future plans, your spare time, your bank/savings account, your driving habits, etc.?*)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How do you think the original hearers/readers of this message felt about it?

# who am i?

## **Questions to Consider**

What status do I have in my social sphere in school, church, or community?

Do I often try to improve my status? How?

Do I pay special attention to people who are more popular than I am?

How do I treat the “outcasts” of my society?

What would happen to my status if I actively befriended some of these “outcasts”?

Am I more interested in making Jesus popular than in truly following him?

What can I do this week to stop clinging to my status, to put others before myself, or to become a servant like Jesus?

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## **Who am I?**

Who am I?

I know I’m more than an athlete or a brain, an outcast or a rebel.

But that’s not the reality of high school.

I’m supposed to be discovering myself, finding myself, but somehow I’ve been given a label.

It feels like everyone is watching, expecting, waiting for me to fail.

I feel so desperate, alone, invisible, misunderstood, fake.

All I’ve ever wanted was to be accepted, but now I regret some of the things I’ve done.

And I’m tired; I’m tired of trying to be who everybody wants me to be.

God, I know it shouldn’t matter what others think, but it’s hard not to.

I know you want me to be real, to be who you made me to be.

But it’s easier to be that way at church, than it is at school.

Lord, help me to surrender to you. Give me courage; give me strength, because I can’t do it on my own.

Help me understand that what really matters is what You see, and who You designed me to be.

Help me to be...*that* me.

# how sin works

**Principle 1: Sin Grows**

**Text:** James 1:13–15.

**Key Question:** *How* does sin give birth to death?

**Principle 2: Sin Finds Its Own Society**

**Text:** Psalms 1:1–2

**Key Question:** *Why* is it important to avoid hanging out with mockers, etc.?

**Principle 3: Sin has a cycle**

**Text:** Romans 7:18–25. *Also Romans 8 (especially verse 11.)*

**Key Question:** *How* does Jesus rescue us from this cycle?

**Principle 4: Sin doesn't have to define us**

**Text:** Ephesians 2:1–10 (*Read also, 1 Corinthians 9:24–27*)

**Key Question:** How are we defined in verse 3 and verse 10?

*"I am a child of God. I am his masterpiece. He created me to do amazingly good things. I want to surrender my sin and be lifted up by God to a life that is more alive than I've ever imagined."*

# altar egos

1. \_\_\_ I will pray about this new life and listen for the Spirit's direction.

What will I say to God?

The sort of guidance I'm listening for ?

2. \_\_\_ I will look around my school and my community for people in need.

Any ideas already of whom to help, and how?

3. \_\_\_ I will look for ways to serve God with the abilities he has given me.

What abilities?

4. \_\_\_ I will volunteer my time in this area of service:

5. \_\_\_ I will donate money to this ministry/charity:

I will get the money by doing this:

6. \_\_\_ I will research a certain geographical area, people group, or type of ministry, because I think God might be calling me in that direction.

Specifically what?

7. \_\_\_ I will talk to five other Christians (including leaders) about starting some sort of mission or service project.

Specifically what?