

WHO CARES

FROM JESUS WITH LOVE

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Introduction

Do you sometimes feel like **nobody quite understands** you? Are you facing situations and **decisions that are new** to you and that you're **not sure how to handle**? Maybe sometimes you wish that you had someone around who was a **friend, mentor, and miracle worker all in one**.

Well, the good news is that **there is someone around** who is the best friend you could possibly ask for. He cares about you more than you could imagine, and He knows the best way to get through the tough things in life. His name is Jesus, and He's the greatest.

He knows you inside and out, and He wants you to get to know Him better, too. He not only **understands you perfectly**, but the best part about Him is that He has the **power to help you and make life better** for you. That power comes to life when you pray and ask Him for help, and when you listen to what He has to say and try to follow His advice.

He has a lot of good tips that'll help you be happier and **get through things more easily**, and that's what this book is full of. **Enjoy it!** It doesn't stop there either. There's a lot **more where this came from**, and you'll find that out as you get to know Jesus better and start talking with Him. He'll talk to anyone who believes in Him, sincerely asks Him to speak, and then has faith to believe that what they "hear" in their heart is really Him speaking. He wants to talk to *you*, and He wants to help you! **Give Him a try.**



I KNOW YOU WANT TO BE ORIGINAL. You want to be unique, special, and smart. You want to think of things nobody else has thought of and say things nobody else has said. You want to dress to suit your own tastes. You want to make your mark on the world.

I also know how frustrating it can be when you feel like those around you are trying to make you be just like everybody else, or when it seems like nobody is interested in your ideas and thoughts, or your feelings.

You know what? I'm interested—really interested! I made you different from anyone else. When I created you, I didn't use a cookie cutter! There's never been anyone else like you.

I don't want you to be just like everybody else, or just like anybody else. I love you just the way you are, and I've made you that way for a special reason. I want you to find that reason, and make the most of what I've given you and the special way I've made you.



DO YOU NEED SOMEONE TO UNDERSTAND YOU, someone who really knows what you're going through? Well, *I* know more about what you're going through than *you* do.—Honest!

I know every thought that has ever come into your mind. But even though I know your every thought, you still need to get it out. It'll help you feel better, and help you to see things more clearly. Go ahead and tell Me what's on your mind. I promise to understand. I'll listen, and I'll also tell you things that'll help.

I love talking with you. You can tell Me anything you want. I'm your friend, and I like to know everything about you—what makes you happy, what bugs you, your hopes, your dreams, your worries—everything. I think you're interesting.

PERSEVERING
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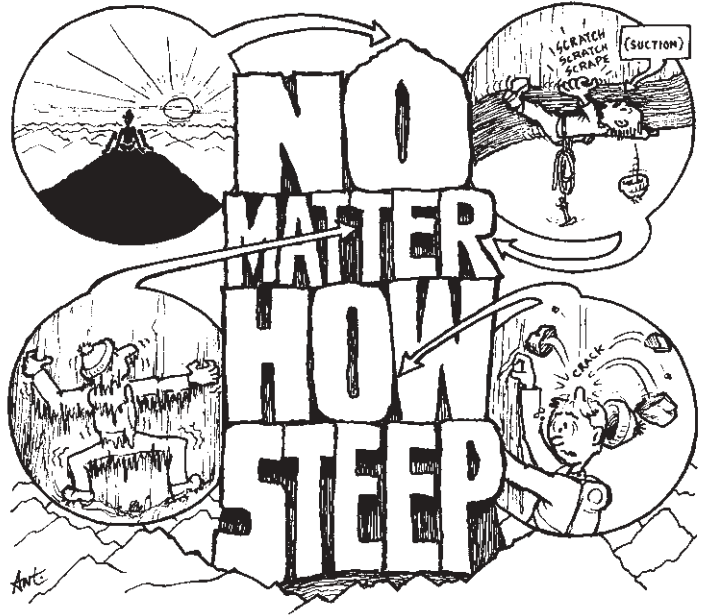
Some mountain
climbers are
willing to do
almost anything,
risk anything,
and give up
everything
just to reach
their goal—the
mountaintop.

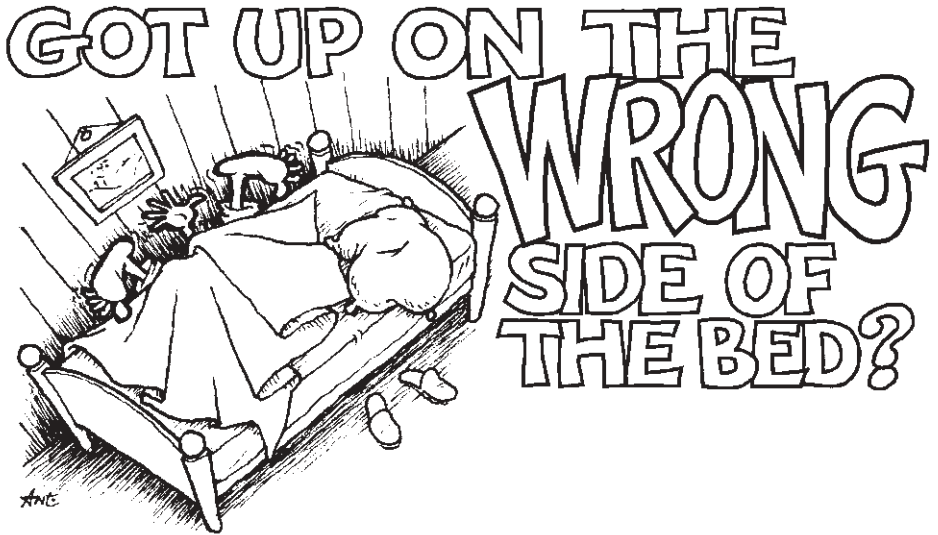
Mountain
climbers

determine that they're going to reach their goal no matter what happens. They endure freezing temperatures and lots of expected and unexpected hazards; they leave behind all the comforts of home. They get scratches and bruises. They even risk their lives.

They endure a lot, because they want to make it to the top of the mountain. They want to reach their goal, no matter how hard it gets. That's the kind of commitment you'll need in order to reach many of your goals in life. The things you're trying to learn or accomplish might get real tough along the way, but don't let that stop you. Think of the mountain climbers and what they endure, and the sacrifices you might have to make won't seem so bad.

Once you get to the top of your mountain, once you reach your goal, you'll be thrilled. You'll want to keep climbing new mountains, reaching new goals, and experiencing the thrills of exploring new territories.





THINGS AREN'T WORKING OUT VERY WELL TODAY. You're having one problem after another—nagging little things that maybe wouldn't matter so much if you were in a better mood, but today they feel like the end of the world! You don't mean to bark at people or give them a hard time, but you can't seem to help it.

There's a saying, "You can't keep the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from building a nest in your hair." Unfortunately, when the first little "grump bird" came flying over your head this morning, you let him land and start building his nest, and now you're caught in a vicious cycle of grumpiness. But you can break the cycle. As soon as you ask Me to help you snap out of it, I'll help you do just that.

There are always going to be bumps, obstacles, and nagging problems that can make your day turn sour—if you let them. Some days, it's worse than others. But you don't have to stay miserable just because things started off that way. It's never too late to turn around and start being happy. Why not start right now?



LIFE IS ALL ABOUT LEARNING! I could have created you perfect and already knowing all there is to know. But that would have been too easy, and it would have taken a lot of the fun out of life. It's exciting to have challenges and to have to stretch yourself to reach for a goal! Without something to shoot for, life would be empty and meaningless.

Don't just exist from day to day, or try to do the minimum and just get by with doing as little as you possibly can. Put all you've got into whatever you're doing—your studies, your friendships, and whatever other talents and interests you're pursuing. If you put your heart into these things, they'll be a lot more satisfying. Give it your best shot, and you'll be amazed at what happens.



SOME OF YOU THINK THAT YOU CAN learn a lot about how to attract a boyfriend or girlfriend from the “tips” in the movies you’ve seen. Don’t bet on it. Just because some “cool” guy said some “cool” line to some “cool” girl in some “cool” movie and she was “his” from then on, doesn’t mean that anyone else doing the same is going to get the same results!

Every person is different, and what works for someone else might not work for you. But I happen to know what will work for you, and I’ll tell you, if you’ll listen.

If you want to love and be loved, there are a few important things to understand that you probably *won’t* learn from the movies.

The key thing is not to impress the guy or girl you like with how great you are. It’s to make them feel that you care about them and think *they’re* great. You have to let your special someone get to know the real you, the part everybody doesn’t see, the things you think and feel. And you have to get to know the real *them*, too.

You’ll learn a lot more as you go—but understanding these few important things will get you off to a good start.



WHEN SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE GOING WRONG, instead of complaining or letting it get you on a bumner, try to find a personal solution for it. That doesn't mean figuring out how to change things so that they always go your way. It means finding a way to be cheerful even if they don't. Learn to make the best of any situation—"making lemonade out of the lemon."

It makes Me especially happy when you have a positive reaction to something that didn't turn out quite as you would have liked. I want you to be happy and I try to give you things and make the circumstances so that you're happy with them. But that's not always possible. So when something is tough for you, but you're able to trust Me and smile through your disappointment anyway, it shows Me that you're ready for one of My blessings, something that I probably wouldn't have sent your way otherwise, because some blessings have to be earned—and they're usually the ones that you want the most.