



The Backward Life: In Pursuit of an Uncommon Faith

By Jarrod Jones

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The Backward Life: In Pursuit of an Uncommon Faith By Jarrod Jones

Jesus is totally backwards to the world. Rather than focus on his own desires, he lived to love others. He preached lessons that seemed contradictory: Die to live. Lose to gain. Love your neighbor as yourself. Is it possible to follow in his footsteps today? Can people live a faith that means something in a culture so focused on self? Meeting an MTV generation where it's at, *The Backward Life* shouts "YES!" In this provocative and challenging book, Jarrod Jones takes readers on a journey into a faith that dares members of our pop culture to live like Christ--to deny themselves and take up the cross. This kind of living may seem backward to the ways the world would have one find happiness and meaning, yet Jones shows how it delivers more fulfillment than anyone can imagine. Filled with real-life stories and honest teaching, *The Backward Life* offers a new look at a faith that will help readers discover who they are and who God is calling them to be.

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The Backward Life: In Pursuit of an Uncommon Faith By Jarrod Jones Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Admitting to doing life "backwards," Jones makes no apology for it. As the Alabama speaker with Vertical Ministries defines it, a backward life consists of first loving God and then loving others (Mark 12:29–31). As he says, "[L]ove for others is our love relationship with God gone public." Jones exhorts fellow Christians to embrace the "backward" life by exposing secular society's notion that self-esteem, self-promotion and personal power are the chief means of happiness. Controversially, Jones states that low self-esteem has been given an unnecessary bad rap, for it is frequently the catalyst that propels individuals into recognizing a need for God. He uses biblical stories to recount and punctuate his points, arguing that readers must discover the Bible to understand who God is and why God's ways are so unconventional yet compelling. Jones takes a hard line at times, exhorting readers to saturate their minds with biblical principles, plead with God through constant prayer and "bleed" or expunge any plans that take precedence over obedience to God. Though Jones's passion and sincerity are obvious, some readers may find this text lacking in fresh material. (*July*) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Review

"Jarrod continues to encourage me with his love for God and people and his dedication to sharing Jesus with the world." --Mac Powell, lead vocalist, THIRD DAY

"Jarrod Jones is a man seeking glory for his God. I appreciate not only his ability to communicate God's truth with clear relevancy but also his humble spirit." --David Nasser, nationally recognized speaker and author

"With a passion for biblical teaching, an amazing testimony of God's grace, and a pure heart, Jarrod Jones is a man used mightily by God." --Joel Engle, lead pastor/worship leader/speaker/songwriter

From the Back Cover

Get ready to get over yourself with this frank and fun discussion of how God wants us to live life. Jarrod Jones takes "backward" and uses it to show you how Jesus turns life on its head. Discover how much fuller your life can be when you revel in living as Jesus taught: giving to gain, losing to win, and turning first and last around. In his down-to-earth style, Jarrod shines light on the lies we use to organize our lives to make ourselves the top priority. But he doesn't leave us floundering in the wake of that discovery. Instead, he gives us a real hope in the backward view of life--the only life that, in the end, truly makes sense. "Jarrod continues to encourage me with his love for God and people and his dedication to sharing Jesus with the world."--Mac Powell, lead vocalist, Third Day "Jarrod Jones is a man seeking glory for his God. I appreciate not only his ability to communicate God's truth with clear relevancy but also his humble spirit."--David Nasser, nationally recognized speaker and author "With a passion for biblical teaching, an amazing testimony of God's grace, and a pure heart, Jarrod Jones is a man used mightily by God."--Joel Engle, worship leader/ speaker/songwriter, Made for Worship Jarrod Jones is a popular speaker at churches, conferences, festivals, and ministry events across the United States and Canada.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Henrietta Roderick:

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