

# My Ultimate i-chievement Journal



### Welcome.....to your i-chievement journal

**i-chievement** provides lots of activities and challenges for you to have fun developing and working. It also provides great opportunities for you to discover who Jesus Christ is and to encounter the challenge of living your life with Him right in the middle of it!

Paul, a great early follower of Jesus, wrote a letter to other Christians in Rome. It was recorded in the Bible and in Romans Chapter 12 he says this:

Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going to work and walking around—and place it before God as an offering. (The Message)

The idea of this journal is that you record your thoughts and reflections in it as you learn how to respond to Paul's words. The material in the i-chievement programme will help you to see how God wants to be involved in all you do. It will help you to discover what this means in your daily living.

# Here is how to get along with your i-chievement journal Utilise: Set aside some time for you Launch: Have a think about your life, now and in the future What's going on? Where are you heading? Task: Jot down any thoughts that come to mind Investigate: Have a look at the questions in the journal—what are your thoughts? Monitor: Make a note of your on-going thoughts and your achievements—and celebrate! Action: Jesus said 'I have come so that you may have life to the full'

Twitter: Build relations by sharing with other girls and your mentors

njoy: Have fun getting involved in Ultimate i-chievement and discovering just how much God loves you!

#### Friends contacts:



# IFG

# **Ultimate Award**

This is the top award you can earn in iconz4girlz. If you choose to go for it on completion along with a badge and certificate you will receive a detailed description of what you did to achieve the award that will look absolutely brilliant in your CV.

#### Requirements:

- Regular attendance at IFG Ultimate
- Complete 15 challenges from any of the APPS but must include:
- Citizenship from Community App
- Roles, Rights & Responsibilities from Responsibility App Any challenge from God App
- Complete two community service projects (total 30 hrs) Complete Leadership Training
- Footnote- You may reasonably expect to complete the requirements within three years but there is no time limit.





Launch into a Research Project to determine "What sort of issues are challenges in my Community"

Put my findings into words that will Challenge me

# What place does God have in my life?

How will building Relationships with God and others inspire me to accept the challenge of helping people in my own Community.

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## Your God story

# Experience the challenge of life with Jesus in the middle of it.

Getting to know someone takes time. You don't suddenly really know your friends. You learn about them, discover what they're like and together you build a relationship. It involves knowledge, time together, communication and trust.

Getting to know God is just the same and in the Bible it talks about how God gave us Jesus Christ as a key person through whom we can discover what God is like and how to have a real relationship with Him. Jesus is God. So getting to know Him is getting to know God.

The first people who lived with Jesus in their lives were the disciples (the word means followers or learners). Because Jesus was God in a person they discovered what God is like by being with Jesus. The disciples got to know Jesus, how He thought, what He felt about them, how He reacted to life's situations and how He made a difference in the lives of other people as they encountered Him.

They were challenged by Jesus to live in the same way as Him, to be like Him, to let Him rub off on them, to accept Him as the key authority in their lives and to have Him right in the middle of their thinking, their actions and their life choices. The story of their lives can be found in the New Testament of the Bible.

Someone once said that all of us follow some one or some thing. The choice we have is who or what to align ourselves with. Christians follow Christ (Jesus Christ). It's a choice we can make—to put Him in the middle of our lives, to accept Him as the one who we love the most and choose to be like. That's what it means to be a Christian. It's not about rules or about going to church, it's about getting to know Jesus, accepting Him as God of our lives and letting Him set our priorities and actions. It's a relationship.



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Here are some things to think about and act on if you want to begin experiencing the challenge of living with Jesus at the centre of your life.

- God wants each of us to have a 'God story'. He created us to be like Him, loves us and really wants us to live with Him in the middle of our lives.
- There are things that get in the way of this. God is so amazingly perfect and 'holy', but we aren't. There's something within us that separates us from being holy like Him. It's often called 'sin'. Sin leads to us doing loads of selfish acts, having hurtful thoughts about others... doing things wrong. In the first two thirds of the Bible (the Old Testament) it says this 'We're all like sheep who've wandered off and gotten lost. We've all done our own thing, gone our own way...' (Isaiah Ch.53:6-The Message).
- Our desire to live without God at the centre (to sin) is something that needs to be put right if we are ever going to be close to God AND THIS CAN HAPPEN!
- Because Jesus was sinless, holy and perfect, when He died on the cross He asked God to forgive US for our sin and to accept His sacrifice as the payment for our sin and God did! '...And God has piled all our sins, everything we've done wrong, on Him' (Jesus) (Isaiah Ch.53:6 The Message).
- Just imagine God loves you so much that He let His Son Jesus (who is part of Himself) live as a human like you, and then die on a cross so that you can be forgiven for EVERYTHING you've ever done wrong... or ever will do wrong in the future, and then sent his spirit to you for eternity.
- That's why you can have your own God story. You can have a relationship with God!



## Your God story (continued)

So you can see the Christian faith isn't about rules, it's about relationship with God and, like any relationship, it's about getting to know the person, making choices to let the person into your life and keeping the relationship going!

If you want to take steps towards living with Jesus at the centre of your life—being a 'Christian' - there are intentional steps to take.

Accept that you are separated from God, acknowledge your sin and say that you're sorry to God for living without Him in the centre of your life (1 John Ch. 1 : 8-10)

Believe that when Jesus died on the cross, He died in your place, for your sin and that God accepts His sacrifice and forgives YOU for all the sin in your life (1 Peter Ch. 2:24)

Invite Jesus into your life. Tell Him you'd like to really turn around from this and learn to live connected to Him (John Ch. 1:12)

**Commit** yourself to learning to live with God at your centre, by following Jesus and living like Him. Tell God that you want Jesus to be the one who sets the priorities in your life, the one who motivates you and shapes how you act (Romans Ch. 10:9-13; Romans Ch. 12:1-12)

Be open to God and the work that God's Spirit (another aspect of God) will do in your life. He will prompt you, guide you and be God's power in you day by day. The Holy Spirit, as He is often called, will enable you to live like Jesus and will give you assurance of how much God loves you! (Acts Ch. 1:8; John Ch.16:13; Galatians Ch.5:22)



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If you want to take these steps in your God story, why not tell God now? You can use your own words to talk to Him or, if it helps, you could say this to Him .....

#### Dear God,



Thank you that you really love me and sent your son Jesus to die on the cross for me. I'm sorry for the things I've done wrong in my life that have hurt you and other people. I know that I've been living without you at the centre of my life and I'm sorry. Please forgive me. I really want to turn around and live connected to you. Jesus come into my life now and help me live my life with you at the centre. I want to follow you. Help me to learn how to be open to you and to be shaped by your spirit. Thank you for loving me!

If you've said this prayer for the first time, that's fantastic! Don't keep it a secret though, telling someone you trust (maybe your leaders) and who can help you to grow in your relationship with God is really important. It will help make it even more real and they'll be able to encourage you!

If you're not ready to say that prayer yet, don't worry. Your God story is at a different place just now, and He loves you just where you are! Keep thinking though and finding out about God as you get involved with **i-chievement**. It's how to experience the challenge!

## Your i-chievement story



#### Get Ready

Look at the Ultimate material which contains twenty different challenges we call APPS . Select one of the challenges that both interests and inspires you from the app of your choice.

#### Get Set

Use the Challenge Plan to help you work out how you might achieve the challenge.

#### Ideas

Consider how you will attack the challenge.

*Set the scene* Ask practical questions to help you get started.

#### Design

Plan in detail how you're going to complete the challenge.

#### Investigate the Christian perspective

Find out what the Bible/other Christians say about this theme either by yourself or with someone to help you.

#### Respond

Put all the planning into practice and make it happen.

#### Evaluate

Think through how you did and what you have learnt.

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#### Go with GOD

As you work through the challenge try to find out how God can be a part of this aspect of your life.

#### Record your story

When you've completed the challenge, record your challenge in this journal. Consider what you have achieved along the way. Use these questions to help you complete your **i-chievement** story reflection.....

- What do you think you have learnt/achieved through working on this challenge?
- Which skills, talents or abilities did you use in your involvement in this project?
- Did your project have an impact on other people and did it help them?
- How has this challenge given you a Christian perspective on issues that you face in everyday life?



# My i-chievement story

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# Your life story

#### Hopes and dreams

Use these pages to note down the things you plan to achieve at school, further education, at work, in your home and in your adventure with God. At the beginning of each year revisit the pages and think again about where God is leading you!

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## **Other challenges**

As well as your i-chievements, you may get involved in a range of other activities which help you to achieve. You may take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award; complete some first aid training; complete the IFG Leaders' Training programme, become a peer mentor, work towards gaining the Ultimate Award or much more. Why not keep a record of such achievements here? Jot down what you have done and say briefly how each activity has helped you to experience the challenge of turning living an ordinary life into living an extraordinary life to the glory of God.

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