# Book # 4 in the series ... TOOLBOX BOOKS PRESENTS LIFE ESSENTIALS IN CHEWABLE FORM

# DISCIPLI-FICATION!

(dis-IPP-li-fi-KAY-shun)

## THE LIFE CHANGES WE MUST MAKE IN ORDER TO DAILY FOLLOW JESUS CHRIST!

written and illustrated by Alan Root.

Anybody can **get** saved. It takes guts to **live** saved.

#### SHORT BIOGRAPHY (by-AWG-ruh-fee)

## short biography

ALAN ROOT IS A ROCK & ROLL MUSICIANARY TO OLDER KIDS. HE IS TALLER THAN HE LOOKS IN THIS BOOK. HE LIKES READING BOOKS LIKE TREASURE ISLAND AND NERO WOLFE MYSTERIES AND ALMOST ANYTHING BY CS LEWIS. HE LIKES MICROWAVE POPCORN, HIKING, PAINTING WITH WATERCOLOR, MUSICAL TECHNO TOYS,

STRONG COFFEE, AND BASKETBALL. HE HAS A B.S. AND HAS DONE POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN GEOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE. FOR MORE THAN 14 YEARS HE'S BEEN TRAVELING THE U.S. MINISTERING THE GOSPEL WITH AN ELECTRIC GUITAR. HE'S DONE MUSIC FOR WRIGLEYS, KELLOGGS, THE BILLY GRAHAM CHILDREN'S CRUSADE, AND DR. SEUSS, WON 3 TELLY AWARDS, AND HAS TONS OF

CDs and DVDs as well as books especially for older kids available at alankoot.com.

HE EVEN DREW THE PICTURES FOR THIS BOOK ALL BY HIMSELF.

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# DISCIPLI-FICATION!

(dis-IPP-li-fi-KAY-shun) noun 1. The travels of a disciple. 2. The practiced habit of "following." 3. A made-up word which simply means the life-changes made to become more and more like

Jesus each day.

written by the unique and semi-ubiquitous

ALAN ROOT!



A 6-to-12-week study of the adventure of following Jesus, written especially for **tweens**.

#### Note to teachers...

... you know who you are.

Strongly encourage your kids to read a couple of pages a day with breakfast. **Black Boxes**: These questions occur during the flow of the chapter. The answers are often obvious, but it helps springboard class discussion to get tweens' marvelous brains thinking. **Q&A**: Have the kids pencil in their answers. Then check the first appendix for what I thought the answers were. Your kids will probably have better ones. **Activities**: Suggestions for full-contact learning. Some of us prefer kinetic discovery. **Going Deeper**: Some of your kids will be challenged enough by what's in the chapters, but some will want to dig down farther. Send them to Appendix 4 and ask them to take notes on what they find to share with the class.

#### Coming books in the series...

... more practical principles for tweens on the way.

- 1. **designamentals** (creation, absolutes, authority)
- 2. **legalonomics** (right and wrong, Law and Grace)
- 3. **salvificology** (starting out on life's biggest adventure)
- 4. **disciplification** (practical tips on living the Christian life)
  - 5. **bibliotectonics** (a study of the world's greatest book)
  - 6. **orthodoctines** (what all Christians everywhere believe)
    - 7. **pilgrimnometry** (Christianity in today's culture)

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### **APPENDIXES**

1 Q&A **71** 2 How to be saved 3 Activities 4 Going deeper

#### **PSSSST! HEY YOU**

If you're sure you have given your life to Jesus already, skip this page.

But if you're not sure, don't worry, just read this page carefully.

Since you can't **live** saved until you **get** saved, you may need to take care of some business with Jesus.

If this is the case, head for Appendix 2 where you'll find stuff that will help you make your first step into the actual "real world." OK.

WE CAN FAKE OUT EVERYBODY EXCEPT FOR ONE PERSON. NOW WHO MIGHT THAT BE? IF WE CAN'T FAKE HIM OUT, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Anybody can get saved, Jesus makes it simple. All we must do is give every bit of our dead, stinkin', rotten life to Jesus and follow him. Jesus then gives us his own life.

It's such an unbelievable deal, the only reason everybody isn't saved is because they **don't understand** what Jesus is of-

fering.

Would you like a gigazillion dollars or a sharp stick in the foot?

Feel free to chose the stick.

DISCIPLIFICATION (dis-IPP-Ii-fi-KAY-shun)

But disciplification is different from getting saved. Disciplification is all about how each day gets lived by someone who is saved. Namely, you.

Not just saved from our sins and from hell, but saved from **empty living**, saved from **brainless thinking**, and saved from from being the small "k" king of **our own tiny castle** where everyone else lives for no other reason than to make us happy.

WHERE IN MY LIFE AM I KEEPING GOD OUT? HOW DO I TURN MY BACK ON HIM? WHY IN THE WORLD DO I DO THAT?

Saved to follow Jesus minute by minute and have real life.

INTRODUCTION (in-trow-DUCK-shun)

This book deals less with **getting** saved, and more with **living** saved.

So. What difference does Jesus make in your life here and now? With friends, with parents, with teachers, with choices?

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES JESUS MAKE IN EACH CRUCIAL, UNIMPORTANT, CRAZY, ROUTINE, BORING, FASCINATING, EXTREME, SAME-OLD SAME-OLD DAY OF YOUR LIFE ON THE 3RD ORBITING PROJECTILE IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM?

Because **getting** saved takes a moment, but **living** saved takes a lifetime, and maybe more. Make that **much** more! A lifetime is not lived all at once, but day by day by day. That's DISCIPLIFICATION.

What's this book about? Listen up...

UFE, REAL LIFE, IS DAILY FOLLOWING JESUS, CHANGING OUR LIVES TO BE LIKE HIM: IN A SINGLE WORD, DISCIPLIFICATION.

# CHAPTER 1 WHERE IS EVERYBODY? (IT'S DARK)

Something's terribly wrong, so what is it?

We all are in a **dark pit**. We climb out, brush ourselves off, and with our next

step, fall right back in.

The name of the dark pit is **sin**. Sin means doing what **we** want instead of what God wants. It's a trap.



In Romans 7, Saint Paul says something like: "I'm totally clueless, my own body stabs me in the back! Somebody help!"

Life around us can be evil, twisted, cruel and dark. We often ask "What's the point?"

Sin is a pit, and **we're all in it**.