

*He must become greater; I must become less. John 3:30 (NIV)*

## **Less**

I need to keep that word ever before me. **What word?** I need to keep the word, “less” in my conscious and ongoing thoughts. **Why is that?** At times, I have had a pretty high opinion of myself. That is hard to acknowledge. But it has been true. I have certainly thought more about my needs and wants and opinions and desires than almost any other subject. “What do I want?” “What do I desire?” “What do I need?” Those questions have driven a good share of my life. As hard as it is to admit, I would say that I have been very full of myself. **How full?** Imagine a glass full to the very brim. Now try to pour in some additional water. That is how full I have been of myself. I have been so full of myself that nothing more could be poured into my life. Others couldn’t pour anything into my life. You couldn’t pour anything into my life. **That is not good.** Yes, I know. But that is all about to change.

**What would you like to change? How differently would you like to live your life?** For starters, I want less of me. I want to take my eyes off of myself. No longer do I want my life to be consumed and guided and surrounded by thoughts of me, myself and I. Frankly, I am more than a little tired of me, myself and I. I don’t want to continually think and speak and act in ways that are pleasing to me. Living for myself, my comfort and my pleasure will no longer drive my life. I want my focus to be on you. I want to be completely open to whatever you have to say to me. I want you to be able to pour your guidance and instruction into my life. I want to receive whatever you have for me. **Why do you want this?** I want to be able to know and do your will. I want my heart and mind and life to be centered on you. As I decrease, as there is less of me, I want there to be more of you in my life. I want to think your thoughts, speak your words and do your actions. **Why do you want this?** I want my life to point others to you. I want to shine brightly and burn hotly for you. I want to bear fruit for your kingdom. I want to bring glory to your name. It is my prayer that there will be far less of me and far more of you in my life. Help me to decrease, so you can increase in all that I think, say and do. Allow me to be a bold and bright witness for you in this world. **I will hear and answer your prayer.** Thank you, Lord.

*Lord, I know life does not revolve around me. I’m not the center of the universe. I’m not the object of everyone’s attention. Far from it. It is my desire to become less and less so you can become more and more in my life. Be exalted in my life for your glory. Amen*

**Becoming Like Christ** *Become Less*  
He must become greater; I must become less.  
NIV John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Decrease*  
He must increase, but I must decrease."  
ESV John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Less And Less*  
He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.  
NKJV John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Decrease*  
He must increase, but I *must* decrease.  
NKJV John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Decrease*  
He must increase, but I must decrease."  
NRSV John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Slip Off To The Sidelines*  
This is the assigned moment for him to move into the center, while I slip off to the sidelines.  
MSG John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Grow Less*  
He must increase, but I must decrease. [He must grow more prominent; I must grow less so.]  
AMP John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Less And Less*  
He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.  
TLB John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Decrease*  
"He must increase, but I must decrease."  
NASB John 3:30

**Becoming Like Christ** *Become Less*  
He must become greater, and I must become less important.  
NCV John 3:30

# Become Less

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Becoming Like Christ** – John 3:30

**In Context:** *Read John 3*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

He must become greater; I must become less. John 3:30 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

He must | become greater; | I must | become less. John 3:30 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:**

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I know life does not revolve around me. I'm not the center of the universe. I'm not the object of everyone's attention. Far from it. It is my desire to become less and less so you can become more and more in my life. Be exalted in my life for your glory. Amen

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**What It Means:**

***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why does the world not revolve around you?

Why, apart from the Lord do you have next to nothing to offer of lasting value to others?

**How are you becoming less so that the Lord can become more in your life?**

**When have you set aside one of your plans so you could more wholeheartedly serve the Lord?**

**What roles has the Lord given to you so you can point others to Him?**

How is the Lord being exalted and glorified through His work in and through your life?

How has your life taken on meaning and purpose as you have become less, and the Lord has become more in your life?

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**Living It Out:**

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow yourself to become less, so that the Lord will become more in your life.

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**Seeing It Happen:**

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that as you become less, the Lord will become more in your life.

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**Get Ready To Share:**

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how as you have become less, the Lord has become more in your life.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you become less so that the Lord will become more in your life.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will become less so you can become more in my life.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I become less so that you will become more in my life?*

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