



# **It's Not About Me: Rescue From the Life We Thought Would Make Us Happy**

*Max Lucado*

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There really is more to this life than you've been told.

We've been demanding our way since day one ...

"I want a spouse that makes me happy and coworkers that always ask my opinion."

"I want weather that suits me and traffic that helps me and government that serves me."

Self-promotion. Self-preservation. Self-centeredness ...

"It's all about me."

They all told us it was, didn't they? And we took them up on it. We thought self-celebration would make us happy ...

But believing that has created chaos -- noisy homes, stress-filled businesses, cutthroat relationships. We've chased so many skinny rabbits, says Max Lucado, that we've missed the fat one: the God-centered life.

If you want to shift into high gear with purpose, this is it: life makes sense when we accept our place! Our

pleasures, our problems, our gifts and talents ... when they're all for the One who created us, we suddenly gain what we've been missing and find what we've been seeking.

Let Max Lucado show you how to make the shift of a lifetime. How to bump your life off self-center. How to be changed and experience the meaning-charged life you were meant to have. Your discovery starts here.

## **It's Not About Me: Rescue From the Life We Thought Would Make Us Happy Details**

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# From Reader Review **It's Not About Me: Rescue From the Life We Thought Would Make Us Happy** for online ebook

## **DonnaJo Jo Pallini says**

Max Lucado has a wonderful way with words! Give God the glory!

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## **elfsi says**

Berpindah dari pusat diri sendiri kepada sumber pusat itu sendiri.  
Kesimpulan isi buku ini : Life is not about us But Life is about God.

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## **Kris says**

Quick and cheap. A good resource for some small platitudes about humility, but... eh. Between the bad jokes and shallow analogies, there's not much new here.

**"If you're looking for a place with no change, try a soda machine. With life comes change."**

Really? Oh, thank you Mr. Bearer of Profound Wisdom... aka: common knowledge. I expected more from Lucado, in general. He really could have gone deeper, making this an intense study about how God works through Bible stories and in our lives today. But this felt lazy and even formulaic.

I suppose I should give it three stars merely for the Bible verses it contains, but... frankly, I wanted something deeper and was disappointed.

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## **Hope says**

What a fabulous little book. I was able to read it all in one sitting at Barnes & Noble. This is definitely one that I will want to own, as I can see myself wanting to read it again and again. I just love the way the Max Lucado writes. Simple. Clear. Straightforward. And yet the inspiration just oozes from the pages. There are so many little gems to be found in this book. Great stories and analogies. I love the way he weaves both Scripture and modern day living, inviting us to see how the Bible is just as relevant and powerful and profound for us today, in the midst of the hustle and bustle of modern life. This book is a call to see the absolute and abundant awe and glory of our God and to live a life that reflects the Truth of His light and love to others. I will be reading this one again!

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## **Becky says**

I would give the first few chapters five stars, but I feel like it sort of petered out on the last 3. Not that they

aren't important points, but I don't feel like they really said anything in a new, memorable way that I hadn't heard before.

That said, this book is like chicken soup. It's an easy read with lots of simple-to-follow, yet fun and surprising parables and analogies. You can tell Lucado enjoys and savors his words, and you enjoy them right along with him. The book is soothing and refreshing to your mind and it helps you let go of circumstances in life that might be keeping you from having the right perspective.

I like that it's short. So many Christian nonfiction books drag on and on when I feel like they made their point in the first couple of chapters. You can tell Lucado chooses his words/phrases carefully and wisely and tries not to have a single thing in this book that isn't absolutely necessary to drive the point home. I appreciate that.

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### **Rachel says**

This is a collection of meaningful, convicting lessons that glorify God and His role in our lives, while reminding us of our purpose to glorify Him. highly recommend!

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### **Rolland says**

This was the first adult book of Mr. Lucado's that I have read. I was drawn to it based on the message of faith and humility, and because it looked accessible, even conversational, in its approach.

Overall, I respect the author's message here and it serves as a good reminder that the universe is not ours, not our plan, not our design, and we're not the center of things. Mr. Lucado's style is personable and friendly, a minister and coach together. I enjoyed his tone. The chapters, while thematically related, did not come together as a cohesive book for me. He admitted that the book came out of a collection of his writings over time, and that is how it felt. Kudos to him for being honest about that!

What surprised me was how regularly interspersed with scriptural references the chapters were. In fact I really dwelled on this aspect, to the point of it detracting some from the book's flow and message.

For one, the author used a range of Bible translations and wording to illustrate his message, and I wondered why he picked so many translations - was it to get just the right wording he wanted to convey his point? Or to appeal to readers using different Bibles? For someone who seemed to think that scriptural backup was important for his readership, Mr. Lucado hardly chose the most authoritative texts for some of his quotes. In fact, I couldn't help but feeling that there was some cherry-picking of verse that was meant to bolster his arguments.

In any event, while I enjoyed pulling out my Bible to check out more context for the quotes, overall they didn't add much. He had me from the book's title, really, so it all felt unnecessary. Afterall, is there something controversial here? Is the validity of this message enough in question that it needs supporting, scriptural backup? I just didn't think so.

In this modern, self-absorbed world, with billions of people and massive disparities, this book serves as a

good reminder that God has more than just us on His plate and on His mind. Some stories of people in action would have been inspirational too, but don't look to this book for many concrete profiles or suggestions of service.

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## **Carol says**

As a Christian, periodically I need to re-read this book because I lose my perspective. So today, I am back into this wonderful book. As a human being, at times, my thoughts are focused on being "Number 1." I'm blinded by my self-centeredness which comes out in what I think and say. Lucado's "It's Not About Me" book is a great wake up call, and helps to me to focus on God and His Will. Lucado's writing is easy to read and his stories reveal where you are and also plants, inside your heart, little reminders of who this is all about. The words below we're written by Max Lucado in this book.

# 1:

1 Corinthians 8:6 NLT -- There is only one God, the Father, who created everything, and we exist for him.

Why does the earth spin? For him.

Why do you have talents and abilities? For him.

Why do you have money or poverty? For him.

Strengths or struggles? For him.

Everything and everyone exists to reveal his glory. Including you.

#2:

The Message is about Him --

A European village priest in medieval times once gathered his church for a special service. "Come tonight," he told them, "for a special sermon on Jesus." And they did. They came. To their surprise no candles illuminated the sanctuary. They groped their way to the pews and took their seats. The priest was nowhere to be seen. But soon he was heard walking through the church toward the front. When he reached the crucifix that hung on the wall, he lit a candle. Saying nothing, he illuminated the pierced feet of Christ, then the side, then each hand. Lifting the candle, he shed on the blood-masked face and the crown of thorns. With a puff, he blew out the candle and dismissed the church.

We may do nothing more.

We may do nothing less.

#3:

Just A Moment

One phrase my daughter learned gave me pause. Jenna was nearly two years of age, just learning to speak well. With her little hand lost in my big one, we walked through the lobby of our apartment building. Suddenly she stopped. Spotting a ball, she looked up at me and requested, "Just a moment." sliding her hand from mine, she walked away.

A moment? Who had told her about moments? To date, her existence had been time-free. Toddlers know no beginning or end or hurry or slow or late or soon. The small world of a child amplifies present tense and diminishes future and past. But Jenna's phrase, "Just a moment," announced that time had entered her world.

Time had invaded her world. Life, she's discovering, is a cache of moments: measurable and countable increments, like change in a pocket. Everyone has a certain number of moments. Everyone that is, except God. God is the Everlasting King. "Before Abraham was born, I am." (John 8:58). God never says I was because He still is. He is eternal. Eternity makes no sense to us, the time bound. It's like getting a book in a foreign language that you can't read. But what if someone taught you how to read and write the language? With God's help the same is happening to you and me regarding eternity. If life was measured by the grains of sand, how would we stacked up? Need a phrase to summarize the length of your life on earth? Try Jenna's "Just a moment." as Paul said, "Our light afflictions, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." ( 2 Corinthians 4:17)

What if we took the same attitude toward life? Discouraged, some reply "what about me, life is short, get out." God's wisdom, however says, "Life is short -- stay in." God stacks all our struggles and burdens on one side of the pan scale, and places an eternal weight of glory on the other side. Endless joy. Measureless peace. An eternity of him. Watch what happens as he sets eternity on your scale.

Everything changes! The burdens lift. The heavy becomes light when weighed against eternity. If life is "just a moment," can't we endure any challenge for a moment?

We can be sick for just a moment.

We can be lonely for just a moment.

We can be persecuted for just a moment.

We can struggle for just a moment.

Can't we?

Can't we wait for our peace? It's not about us anyway. And it's certainly not about now.

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## **Megan (Ginger Mom) says**

In his book, "It's Not About Me", Max Lucado attempts to break us out of our "me-centric" world, reminding us that we are here only to bring glory to God. One of the best analogies he uses in this book is his comparison of humans to a tour guide working at an art gallery. The tour guide is meant to introduce the artwork and bring attention and glory to it but after a bit, he starts taking credit for it, saying thank you. Lucado compares this to humans trying to take center stage in God's art gallery when what we should really be doing is showing others the glory of God and the amazing things God has created. It may seem a bit harsh to some but Lucado rightfully puts us in our place. Yes, God loves us. But that doesn't mean we are important. We are here for one reason only, to glorify God. He brings us down a notch from the world that is all about us that we thought would make us happy, to a world that revolves around God and truly can make us happy.

This book challenged me to step out of my own "me-centric" box that I have become so accustomed to, like many other people, and to start realizing that God is what is important in this world. He created us and He alone deserves all the glory.

I loved this book and would definitely recommend it to others.

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## **Kathryn says**

This would make a lovely little gift for someone who is interested in developing a relationship with Jesus, or for someone who wants a bit of a shake-up in their perspective of the Christian life, or for someone who feels like they're drifting a little and would like to get back on track. Or even a quick reminder for yourself of basic principles of living a fulfilled life when walking with God. It is set out in 14 chapters, each quite short (about 7 - 10 small pages) which I felt made ideal pre-bed-time reading!!

The chapters address ideas that you may have known at one point and lost sight of, or that you know but have not been focusing on lately, or some may be concepts that you've just not really considered before now.

I found it an interesting and concise read which refreshed my faith.

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## **Jerry says**

Many wonderful thoughts...but way too much wasted space.

EDIT: A rereading improved my opinion a bit...hence the higher rating.

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## **James E. Robinson, III says**

There are many times when i want to whine about life being unfair, complain about some circumstance, get a little depressed over some issue, or even get a little concerned when some health issue arises. That's when you need the reminder...

It's Not About Me serves as that reminder nicely. Despite being a New York Times bestseller, Max Lucado does a good job of taking the reader on a journey; stopping first to remind us who God is, then taking the next step to talk about what that means for you and me.

The first couple of chapters are a little too wordy, using just too many words (examples, metaphors) to get the point across. I actually took a break from this book to read another one. I was happy that this book got better the farther along i read.

Find yourself thinking too much about yourself? If you answered, "no, i'm too important to do that," then this one is for you. :-)

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## **Melissa Bemis says**

Every book Max writes speaks to my spirit unbelievably. In this book, Max talks about how much our lives should be about being Christ-like, and in seeking God, He shall help us reconcile those who do not know him yet, to know Jesus. Very eye opening, to realize that it is NOT about me, but about what God did for me, and



what I can do for others for His glory, in HIS name.

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## **Jerry says**

This audiobook is well-narrated and is a faithful representation of Max Lucado's writing. However, one glaring omission stands out: Though Mr. Lucado uses different translations to make his points, this audio version never says what they are, except in the chapter "God's Mirrors". That kept this from being as good as it could have been.

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## **Corbin Wertz says**

It's Not About Me

Max Lucado

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\$10.99

Upon picking up *It's Not About Me* I ventured that this would be, or at least try to be, one of those cliché and trite inspiring books about how you should live your life. But that was hardly the case after reading less than 10 pages of this book. Having verse after verse to prove his point in many different applicable categories, the author did a great job of doing exactly what I figured his mundane title would do. He slowly made me realize how self-centered not only I am, but how much the world is too. Ironically, how much God deserves yet how much he gives. Although I've read *7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, I would be lying until now if I shared that I had read a quality guilt-read. The author opens eyes to a new perspective of the rare trait of unselfishness.

*It's Not About Me* by longtime Christian Max Lucado is a very motivating look at fulfilling the once Michael Jackson's "take a look at yourself and make a change", and honestly does everything but force one to do just that. Bringing God to the front and letting the self-centered, individualistic mindset take the backseat is the eminent theme that Lucado tries to reveal to all ages. Living in a society that emphasizes on the facade that "I can live by my own rules" is very dangerous and misleading when in reality what people need, is the exact opposite. God was there for us in the beginning, God is there for us now, and God will always be what we need in the future.

In *It's Not About Me*, two parts are revealed about the different ways that God can become a top priority. Part One is "God Pondering" and has six individual chapters, each with a new topic on giving all the attention to God. Topics that cover the unimaginable glory of the Lord, the path that God leads us on to him, the everlastingness of our Savior, and His never-ending strength. All these topics provide the thinking side of placing God first in life and the knowledge and evidence we need to put Him ahead of selfishness and individuality.

In Part Two, which has the theme of "God Promoting", the more putting into action side of living a God first life is shown. Topics of all 7 chapters including giving up the body, words, struggles and successes to the

Lord and giving him control. Too often people want to be in control of all aspects of their lives and that is what this part is telling us to give up and look to God for.

As the book progresses, new topics and ideas are expressed and the reader essentially becomes the character and evolves slowly after each chapter about how God should become top priority in life. The plot of the book being to show a different side of the Lord and evidence in supporting every point. First starting out with the mental side of thinking God is greater than all else in life then moving to the how God can physically be used in life and what it looks like.

In this novel, Max Lucado focuses on living for Christ, or lack thereof, whereas in a plethora of his other novels he focuses on what God does for people rather than the other way around. Compared to *Living the Life God has Planned*, Lucado's novel touches more on the subject of the mentality side of living for God and has a huge emphasis on that rather than putting it truly into action like the other bestseller presents.

This inspiring novel would be life-changing for anyone from the ages of 13 and up as the complexity of it is quite high and at times hard to grasp. Whether a strong Christian walking with God, or a newcomer questioning faith I would recommend this book for countless amounts of situations. This book opens up the perspective of living a selfish life and how vital it is to put God first in everything done.

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