# **God Wants YOU**

## Ready:

"See what great love the Father has given us that we should be called God's children – and we are!" – 1 John 3:1a

#### Set

Recruiting is a big part of college athletics. On one side, coaches are searching across the country for the right athletes to be part of their team. On the other side, athletes are working effortlessly to get noticed and prove that they are worthy of a scholarship and roster spot.

I went through the process myself as an athlete. I remember a coach calling me one night and telling me that they were going to offer a different girl a scholarship instead of me. There were other coaches who did want me, but as a 16-year-old girl, that rejection cut deep. They wanted a different girl on their team, not me.

In life we are bound to face rejection of many kinds, but there is someone out there who will always pick you. There is someone out there who wants you to be on their team and part of their family.

God desperately wants you.

But how do you become part of this family of God?

In <u>John 1:12</u>, we are given very simple instructions. It reads, "But to all who did receive him, he gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in his name." You don't have to be recruited to be a part of His family. You don't have to try out. You don't have to earn a spot.

Instead, it's an open invitation for everyone. We are all invited to be a part of God's family at no cost. Why? Because Jesus Christ already paid for your entry fee. When He was crucified on the cross Jesus paid the fee for you. So, the only requirement from you is to believe in what Jesus did.

Just like the verse says, when you believe in HIS name, you are given the right to become children of God.

#### Go

- Have you ever faced rejection? How did it make you feel?
- Do you fully accept and believe that you are invited into God's family?
- How can you treat others like they are invited into God's family?

#### Workout

Ephesians 1:5

Ephesians 2:19-22

Galatians 3:26

### **Overtime**

"Lord, thank You for recruiting me to be part of Your family and covering the costs so that I could freely accept Your invitation. I deserved to pay the fee, but instead You chose to bear my burden and sin on the cross. Thank You for choosing me. In Jesus' name. Amen."



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