

Welcome to the Rob & Big Show, my name is “Meaty.”

**Last week:** Sam said that our **identity** should be based in Christ. Not in the crowd, not in our grades, not in our athletic achievement.

**Two weeks ago:** he said that when we experience **pain** & hurt—that doesn’t mean God doesn’t care. But that God wasn’t surprised by it and He wants to be **with us** and get us and GROW us through it.

**And the first week:** Sam said if we don’t turn down the **NOISE** in our lives, we’ll never hear God.

Three words: **identity**, **pain**, **noise**...

Tonight’s word is **OWN**.

OWN is one of your favorite words. If you’re an athlete and you OWN a record—that’s a big deal. Or if you’re outplaying your opponent, you OWN him/her.

**Just yesterday Slater’s life-long dream** of OWNING an iPod Touch came true. That weasel squirreled away \$270. Dollar here, \$10, \$20 there. And Saturday he drove down to the Mecca of all things geeky—the APPLE STORE at the Fashion Mall.

He laid his hard-earned stack of cash down on the counter and in return they gently lowered the coveted iPod Touch into his hot clammy hand.

So now he OWNS an iPod Touch!!!! ....

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Some of you guys are geeked because you have your **OWN car**.

Some of you are obsessed about being able to OWN your car in the not too distant future---actually driving WITHOUT the parental units!

*I’m* the same way. I OWN a motorcycle. OWN a bunch of drums....

I just bought this new super-sexy camera lens. Now I OWN a 1.4 super fast autofocus lens...

But here’s the thing: there are TONS of things that we WANT to own (like we said). BUT THEN... **There are things we hesitate to own.**

Maybe we don’t really want to OWN thing like:

- Taking care of our room
- Getting good grades
- Taking care of ourselves physically

Maybe we don’t really want to OWN thing like:

- Thinking about the opposite sex in God-honoring ways.
- Our own maturity. (making better choices every year—making CHOICES vs. reacting to

our emotions)

And the big deal we're talking about tonight...is that

**A lot of us hesitate to OWN our spiritual growth.**

Let's be honest: it would be easier for you if Sam OWNED your spiritual growth. It would be easier if you just walked in here or to small group and your **small group leader** and **Sam**, just owned & spoon-fed you spiritual nuggets about God.

It's easy to come to church in the same way we go to get our **hair cut**: walk in, sit down, let the trained professional do their thing to you, then go home.

Come to church. Sit down. Have Sam throw you a **Scooby Snack of Spirituality** and then go home.

But the truth is, that everyone in here is much closer to being an adult, than being a little kid.

And the truth about every person in here, is we are **all uncontrollably drifting down stream toward adulthood.**

You're either 18, or a few years from being 18. And regardless of where you are spiritually at 18, legally, you're an adult... and that means next fall or in a few short years...your faith has to be able to support you...

So because everyone in here is flying toward adulthood...we all need to start OWNING our faith NOW.

We need to figure out what it is to have a relationship between us and God. We have to stop relying and expecting **adults** to throw us **spiritual Scooby Snacks**.

////////////////////(Talk w/Jake Schick)////////////////////

**(Point? Show how teenagers can OWN something & get great results! )**

I could give you guys three points with Scripture verses for tonight's talk. I could tell you to:

- a) **experience your faith**
- b) **live your faith**
- c) **share your faith**

**But I want you to leave here thinking about the word "OWN."**

Because whatever you OWN you master.

You never made a PLAN to be great at TEXTING  
Never made a plan to be great at "Rock Band"  
Never made a plan to be a FaceBook pro.

You simply made it a priority:

- You **spend time** on it.
- You **talk with your friends** about it.
- You **live it**.
- You **enjoy it**.

You **use it**.

So when you decide, “I’m going to own my faith.” Your life in Christ **will take off!!!**

When you choose here (head) that you want to own something, the rest of your body follows. Your **time**, your **energy**, your **words**, your **actions**---they naturally follow whatever you’ve decided to own. (excuses about God...)



Parents can’t figure out why you can’t pick up your room.

It’s because **you don’t care about your room**. You haven’t decided to OWN the responsibility to take care of it either because your mom will still pick it up for you...or you’re ok having a room that looks like **Judah Friedlander** lives in it.

When you decide to OWN something, things **change**. **You change**.

And if you’re here and thinking, (unexcitedly)

“Ya know...this God thing seems hard...it sounds like a lot of work...sounds like a lot of time...sounds like a lot of my energy has to go into that...”

First...those are the words I’ve said about “Rock Band.”

Second...if that’s how you feel about it, then you’re not ready to OWN your faith yet. (ok, that’s your choice.)

But here’s the thing. Saying “I’m not ready to own my faith yet,” means you **HAVE** made a decision.

You’ve decided to **stay right where you are**...(pause)

And that’s ok...but you have to know...

Sam or your small group leader **won’t** and **can’t** come over and **clean up your spiritual room**.

And your faith, will **never fully take root**, will **never really get off the ground**, **never really start maturing**...

**Until YOU decide that you want to add it to the things you own.** (pause)



With sports, **not everyone** can be Jake Schick...

In academics, **not everyone** can be Drew Simon.

When it comes to awesome, phenomenal parenting, **not everyone** can be me...

But EVERYONE CAN have a life that’s **rooted**, **fueled**, and full of the **power of Jesus Christ**.

This isn’t a maybe, **this is a promise** from a God that’s incapable of lying. (screens)

(Jesus said in John 10:10)

**(MS) A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so (YOU)they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than (YOU)they ever dreamed of.**

John 10:10 The Msg.

Last time I'll ask this: **Are you going to own your faith?**

**If you do nothing more than you're doing now...  
Your faith will be nothing more than it is today.**

And whether we own it or not...the Truth still remains:

Christ hung on a cross...so that everyone's life can be a mysterious adventure that's "**Better than you've ever dreamed of,**" (John 10:10)

(Bring up band)

Owning it isn't a solo experience...Holy Spirit IN and WITH us...

Hebrews 12:1-3 (The Msg)

Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

Hebrews 12:1-3