

# ‘Help Me Help You’

In the movie *Jerry Maguire*, the character Jerry Maguire (played by Tom Cruise) is a sports agent who loses his job because he had a change of heart about how his agency should be doing business.

Only one of his clients stayed with him when he sets out on his own: Rod Tidwell (played by Cuba Gooding Jr.). Rod is a talented football player, but his cocky attitude and love for money – instead of the game – has turned him into a liability in the eyes of most potential employers.



Jerry is trying to negotiate on his behalf to land him the big contract he’s looking for, but Tidwell’s attitude is undermining his efforts. In a pivotal scene, Jerry breaks down and pleads with Rod to be more cooperative.

“Help me. Help me, Rod!” Jerry pleads. “Help me help you. Help me ... help you. Help me ... help you!”

Sometimes we’re just like Rod Tidwell. We have our own idea of what’s good for us. We have selfish desires and ambitions, and we stubbornly insist on pursuing them in our own way, even though we have an Advocate who knows a better way.

God pleads with us throughout Scripture to stop undermining ourselves, to let Him lead us on a path of higher purpose.

Like Jerry Maguire, He’s begging us to help Him help us. Until we surrender our will to His, we’ll be just like Rod Tidwell ... confidently strutting down a path of self-destruction.



*In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble” (1 Peter 5:5 NIV).*

– Beecher Hunter