Note that the following information may be Red Hat Linux / CentOS specific: For the most part servers should be running at runlevel 3. If your server is running at runlevel 5 you should probably switch to runlevel 3 unless you need X-Windows running on your server (generally only needed if you need a local login to your windowing system, and almost never recommended). For information on switching runlevels, if necessary, read man runlevel. To check the runlevel on which your server is running, run this command in the shell: \$ runlevel It should return either a single digit or the letter N followed by a space and another single digit. That last single digit is the runlevel. Then determine the proper defaults for *named* grep chkconfig /etc/init.d/named On my Centos 5.x installations I get: Code: # chkconfig: - 55 45 The first number is what you should use in your runlevel directory to start BIND, and the second to stop BIND. First check to see whether BIND is set to start automatically: \$ chkconfig --list named Check for the runlevel you're running at, to see if it's set on or off. If it's off and you need to turn it on for the future, run: Code: \$ chkconfig --level X named on Note that this will not turn it on if it's off, but only change the settings for the future. You shold of course relace the X with your runlevel (either 3, or less desired [see above), 5). This should turn it on, and set it for the default number it's supposed to use, as listed in the /etc/init.d/named file.