

THE PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE

Or, The Forty Weeks of Purpose

A Sermon Series Based on the Book by Rick Warren

Week Twenty-Two: Created to Become Like Christ

Dr. Greg Tyree, BBC, AM, November 21, 2004

INTRODUCTION:

Rick Warren shares these thoughts:

- In all of creation, only human beings are made “in God’s image.”
 - We are spiritual beings
 - We are intellectual beings
 - We are relational beings
 - We are moral beings
- What does the full “image and likeness” of God look like? It looks like Jesus!
- We will never become God, or even a god.
- God’s ultimate goal for your life is not comfort, but character.
- Life is supposed to be difficult! It’s what enables us to grow. Remember, earth is not heaven!
- Never forget that life is not about you! You exist for God’s purposes, not vice versa.

Key verse: Romans 8:29

PROPOSITION: We need to consider and apply three truths as we “become like Christ.”

I. BECOMING LIKE CHRIST REQUIRES A COOPERATIVE DEVOTION.

A. We Must Refuse Our Old Actions. Eph. 4:22.

B. We Must **Relinquish** Our Old Attitudes. Eph. 4:23; Rom. 12:2.

C. We Must **Repeat** Our New Actions. Eph. 4:24.

II. BECOMING LIKE CHRIST RESULTS IN CONTINUAL DEVELOPMENT.

There are three indispensable components of character development:

A. The Scripture Provides the **Conviction** We Need in Order to Grow (Truth). 2 Tim. 3:16.

B. The Saints Provide the **Cooperation** We Need in Order to Grow (Togetherness). Phil. 1:3-7.

C. Our Situations Provide the **Circumstances** We Need in Order to Grow (Tenacity). Rom. 5:1-5.

III. BECOMING LIKE CHRIST REVEALS A COMMITTED DISCIPLESHIP.

A. Spiritual Maturity is **Progressive**. Eph. 4:3.

B. Spiritual Maturity is **Personal**. Rom. 12:1, 2.

C. Spiritual Maturity is **Perceivable**. 1 Cor. 10:31; 16:14; Col. 3:17, 23.

D. Spiritual Maturity is **Perpetual**. 1 John 3:2.

APPLICATION:

Point to Ponder: I was created to become like Christ.

Question to Consider: In what area of my life do I need to ask for the Spirit's power to be like Christ today?