
Becoming Like Jesus

Don Finto

December 12, 2021

Introduction

“It’s not just being saved – it’s becoming more like Him!”

John 14:12

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

- Predestined to be like Jesus

Romans 8:29

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

- Do you believe? Then let’s live like the Spirit of God lives in us.

2 Corinthians 3:18

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

1 John 4:17

This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus.

- This is our destiny
-

God Confidence

God’s confidence must get deeply inside of us.

John 13:3-5 Example of Jesus

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

- How/why could Jesus wash the disciples’ feet?
- Because He knew who He was

Romans 3:12

All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Romans 4:5

However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly [wicked], their faith is credited as righteousness.

Romans 5:17

For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

Overcoming Sin

I confess — He purifies!

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

James 5:16

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

- Some sin patterns not conquered until confessed to someone else
 - Our purpose is to become little representatives of Him
-

Loving like Jesus

Loving like Jesus is not a suggestion, but a command!

Luke 6:27-28

But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

- Not suggestions — commands
 - Not emotions — but will
 - Political “enemies” (those you don't agree with) — pray for them
-

Forgiving — no exceptions

We forgive even those who do not ask for forgiveness.

Luke 23:34

Jesus said, “**Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.**” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

- Not just those who ask for forgiveness
- They don't deserve
- You forgive anyway

Mathew 18:34-35

In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

- There is freedom when you walk in full forgiveness
- You can walk forth in strength

Living Joyfully

Obey His Commands Stand Firm on God's Promises Be Persistent

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- Rejoice in the Lord always
- Rejoice
- Let your gentleness be evident to all
- Do not be anxious about anything
- In every situation, present your requests to God

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Matthew 5:16

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Discussion Questions

1. Are you being transformed more into the image of Jesus daily?
2. How do we get the confidence of God deeply inside of us?
3. Discuss: Sin — I confess — He purifies.
4. Is loving like Jesus an option?
What is the difference between loving from the emotions, or with your will?
5. How can you forgive someone who has not asked for forgiveness?
6. Read Philippians 4:4-7 and discuss the *commands* about living joyfully.

NOTES