

Series: What On Earth Am I Here For?

Message: You Were Created to Become Like Christ

Review:

Week 1: God created us to love us. We need to accept His love.

Week 2: 1st Purpose: We were planned for God’s pleasure.

(_____)

Week 3: 2nd Purpose: We were formed for God’s family.

(_____)

Today:

3rd Purpose: We were created to become like Christ.

(_____)

And now, just as you have accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to live in obedience to him. Let your roots grow down into him and draw nourishment from him, so you will grow in faith, strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with thanksgiving for all he has done.
Colossians 2:6-7 NLT

Just like as humans, we grow from babies to children, to teens, to adults...

As Christians, we are called to grow from being born again (spiritual babies) to _____, with the goal of becoming like Christ.

How do I grow to become more like Christ? *Hebrews 12:1-3 (NLT)*

1) _____ my life.

...let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress. (v. 1)

2) Be patient because growth is a _____.

...And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us. (v. 1)

3) Keep your _____ on Jesus.

We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from start to finish... (v. 2)

- Focus on Jesus by spending time with him _____.

But Jesus often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer. Luke 5:16

The next morning Jesus awoke long before daybreak and went out alone into the wilderness to pray. Mark 1:35

One day soon afterward Jesus went to a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night. Luke 6:12

- Stop _____ where you’re at with others.

- God will _____ what you can’t

I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again. Philipians 1:6

4) _____ when it gets hard.

...He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy he knew would be his afterward...Think about all he endured when sinful people did such terrible things to him, so that you don’t become weary and give up. (v. 2-3)

2 Corinthians 4:10, James 1:2-3

5) Don’t run _____.

We, us, our, us, us, we, our, our (v. 1-2)

Thought for the Week: Becoming like Christ is a life-long race taken one step at a time... What’s your next step?

Key: worship, fellowship, discipleship, maturing Christians, Simplify, long process, eyes, everyday, comparing, finish, Don’t give up, alone

Particularly helpful resources: books and messages by Rick Warren of Saddleback Community Church in connection with the “What On Earth Am I Here For?” studies