



BECOMING

Robert Morris

Focus God created us to become like Jesus.

Open What is the dirtiest job you've ever had to do?

Read Genesis 1:26 shows us God created us with a purpose that includes believing, belonging, becoming and building. When we follow Christ, we become children of God, and we are in the process of becoming like Jesus. (John 1:12, Mark 1:17, 2 Corinthians 13:11)

We are born self-centered. We can see this in how babies act, in our expectations in marriage and in the church, and even in our advertising. Jesus' disciples showed this self-centeredness when they argued over who among them was the greatest. They wanted to rule an earthly kingdom with Jesus. In the same way, each of us is born with a desire to rule our lives. (Mark 9:33–35, Mark 10:35–37)

We are born again Christ-centered. As we receive God's gift of salvation through Christ's sacrifice on the cross, we also surrender our lives to Him. A growing believer's life becomes less self-centered and more Christ-centered. We each have a ministry to do in the kingdom that flows out of being a servant. (Mark 8:34, Mark 10:41–45, Romans 1:1)

We become like Jesus through a process of maturing. Jesus, the God of the universe, served the disciples by washing their feet. He did this job of a lowly servant to show us how we should serve each other. The more we die to ourselves by serving Him and others, the more we become like Him. (John 3:30, John 13:12–15)

Talk

1. Think back to when you were a child or a teenager. Although you were immature and didn't know better, in what ways were you self-centered?
2. Jesus said in Mark 8:34: "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me." When you first came to Christ, did you find it easy or difficult to take up your cross? Why was it easy or difficult?
3. How does serving others cause us to mature and become more Christ-centered?
4. Tell about a believer who recently served you. How did they serve you? What are you learning from their example?
5. Jesus is our ultimate example. He always served God, and He served others. He was motivated by love. How do we keep love as our motivation for serving?

Live

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you about serving a certain person in your life? Whether it's cleaning the bathroom at home or helping a friend at work, commit yourself to doing what He shows you.

Pray

Thank God for sending Jesus to be our example of how to live and love. Praise Him that the Holy Spirit helps us to become more like Jesus. Ask Him to help you grow in serving Him and others.