

Who Do You Want to Become?

"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."

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV)

"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness & holiness."

Ephesians 4:22-24 (NIV)

Our journey of transformation is not a one-time event but a continuous pursuit of Christ-likeness. Just as an artist meticulously sculpts a masterpiece, God shapes us to be reflections of His character.

We are created in God's image, designed to mirror Christ's heart to the world. It is a divine invitation to imitate Him in every facet of our lives. In our work, relationships, and pursuits, we are called to reveal His character. Our success, influence, and purpose should be seen through the lens of Christ's love and grace, reshaping our priorities and pursuits.

In 2024, the person God longs for us to be is one who radiates the character of Christ. This transformation begins with a deepening relationship with God, a passionate pursuit of His presence, and a commitment to living with integrity. As we keep our focus firmly fixed on Him, our heart and character will be molded into the image of Christ.

When we walk in His footsteps, we embody His example of humility, service, forgiveness, and love. Our lives become a visible example of His grace, and others will see His reflection in our words, actions, and demeanor. Declaring who we want to become in 2024 is not a promise to do better, but a new perspective that encourages us to become more like Jesus.

God is crafting us into vessels of His love and grace. As we continually seek Him, we can be confident that His transformative work will shine brightly through us, revealing the person He created us to become - a mirror reflecting the character of Christ.

Take a moment to consider how God might shape your character in the upcoming year by reflecting on the following questions:

1. Earlier in the personal retreat, we spent time reflecting on who we were in 2023. How would you describe the person you believe God is leading you to become in 2024?
2. What specific qualities or characteristics does that person possess? In what ways does that person reflect Christ's heart to the world?
3. What activities, habits, and disciplines does that type of person participate in? How can you engage in these activities in the new year?

After reflecting on the above questions, write out a prayer for your future self to serve as a reminder of your desire to reflect Christ's heart in this way.