

Why are we here?
#4 Becoming Like Jesus
Ephesians 4:22-24

Introduction: Our Heavenly Father creates all things **on purpose** and **with purpose**. His key purpose for creating us, was that we would bring glory to Him. The one person who did that perfectly was His Son Jesus. In his final prayer to His Father, Jesus said... "I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do"(John 17:4 NIV). It stands to reason that if we are to bring glory to God through our lives, then we need to align ourselves with Christ and indeed, God's purposes. In fact, God's purpose is to make us like his Son Jesus in character (Romans 8:29) so that we might complete the work that He gave us to do – bringing glory to our Father.

Ice Breaker: Which parent are you most like in looks and nature? Describe!

Questions to consider.

1. How would you define your persona or character? How would your closest friend (or spouse) define your nature?
2. Everyone has personal characteristics that don't reflect God's glory. What parts of your character would you like to change to be like Christ? Pray for each other and lovingly support each other.
3. Which statement would you find yourself saying more: "God, bless what I'm doing." Or "I want to do what You are blessing."?
4. Read Ephesians 4:22-24. Which do you struggle mostly with in becoming more like Christ?
 - "Putting off" the old nature (v22) – getting rid of old patterns of behaviour, old habits, old sins or just things that are not what Jesus would do or say.
 - Letting the Holy Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes (v23 NLT) This is about repentance.
 - Taking on an entirely new way of life (v24) as God accurately reproduces His character in you.
5. What attitude, mindset, or habit needs to "*go so you can grow*"? How determined are you to bring glory to God with your life?

Ponder...

Becoming more like Jesus is not a one off event, a seminar, a message, or a one day commitment. It is a life time journey of submission to the work of the Holy Spirit to make you and me, more like Jesus and complete God's purpose to bring glory to Himself.

