

# Becoming Like Jesus

*On the Slow, Mysterious Work You Don't Do*

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## Watch before you begin

Scan to watch the Lesson 7 teaching video — a [X]-minute companion to this lesson.

## BIG IDEA

Christ is being formed in you — your part is to stay in the room.

## CORE SCRIPTURES

*“My children, I am again suffering labor pains for you until Christ is formed in you.”*

— Galatians 4:19 (CSB)

*“I am sure of this, that he who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”*

— Philippians 1:6 (CSB)

## KEY CONCEPTS

*Fill in the blanks as you read or as your group works through the lesson.*

1. Galatians 4:19 says Christ is being \_\_\_\_\_ in you — and the verb is passive. You are the location, not the worker.
2. Striving is the effort of trying to produce something. \_\_\_\_\_ is the effort of not leaving.
3. Your part isn't to produce formation. Your part is to stay in the \_\_\_\_\_ where the Worker is working.

4. Many new believers find that real formation is invisible week to week and only obvious looking back over

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5. Christlikeness isn't \_\_\_\_\_ . The image you're being formed into is cross-shaped.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Work through these questions as a group. There are no wrong answers here — only honest ones.*

### ► OPENING — LOW STAKES

1. When you imagine “becoming like Jesus,” what picture comes to mind? Where do you think that picture came from?
2. Have you ever caught yourself thinking, “I thought I’d be different by now”? You don’t have to give specifics — just name whether you’ve been there.

### ► CORE — HEART OF THE LESSON

3. The lesson reads Galatians 4:19 as a passive sentence — Christ is being formed in you, with you as the location, not the worker. How does that reframe what spiritual growth has felt like for you so far?
4. The lesson names the moralism trap: the slide from “Christ is being formed in me” into “I’ll work on forming Christ-shape in myself.” Without naming specifics, where have you felt that verb flip in your own life — turning trust into striving?
5. The lesson distinguishes striving (the effort of trying to produce something) from staying (the effort of not leaving the room where the Worker is working). Which one better describes how you’ve been walking with Jesus this past month?

### ► DEEPER — FOR COURAGEOUS GROUPS

6. Many new believers find that real formation is invisible week to week and only obvious looking back over years. Where in your life — over the last year or two — can you look back and

see the Worker has been at work, even though you didn't notice at the time?

7. The lesson ends by saying Christlikeness isn't respectability — the image you're being formed into is cross-shaped, and may not match the picture your family or congregation expects. Where might "looking more like Jesus" actually mean letting go of an image of yourself you've been quietly protecting?

## JOURNALING

*Set aside 15-20 minutes with these prompts. Write honestly — no one grades these.*

**1** Make a list of the spiritual practices you've started since becoming a Christian — Scripture, prayer, gathered worship, conversations with other believers. Which of these have you started thinking of as something you have to produce results in, rather than as a "room" where God works? What would shift if you stopped measuring them by outcome?

**2** Think back over the last six months. Where can you see something the Worker has been quietly forming — a shorter fuse, a softer instinct, a question you would have skipped a year ago? Write down what you notice. Don't edit it.

**3** Where does the voice of "I should be further along by now" speak the loudest in your life? What would it look like to put down the measuring stick for one week and just stay in the room?

## THIS WEEK

Pick one room to stay in this week. Choose one practice from the last six lessons — Scripture, prayer, gathered worship, or honest conversation — and commit to showing up in it daily. Don't measure the day by what you felt. Don't try to produce a result. Just stay. At the end of the week, look back and notice what the Worker may have done while you weren't watching.

*Core Scriptures: Galatians 4:19 • Philippians 1:6*

## ANSWERS

*Fill in the blanks as you read or as your group works through the lesson.*

1. formed
2. Staying
3. room
4. years
5. respectability

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### Want to go deeper?

Scan to watch the Lesson 7 teaching video — a [X]-minute companion to this lesson.