

# BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

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Marriage is two becoming one. Marriage is a blend of two lives who grew up at different locations, environment, schools, had different acquaintances, relationships and parents with their different principles and values. Definitely, it will be difficult blending into one, but with determination and hard work it is possible. Differences in tastes, desires habits and characters will definitely abound. This most of the time create lots of conflict in the home especially when every one in the relationship is insisting in his or her way.

A man's knowledge and experiences form his personality. Personality is not easy to change. It takes God to change a man. That is why Jesus Christ came into the world to change our personality. He also gave us the Word to re-orientate us about life. So in the end we will have the right perspective to life from the author of life himself. ***Therefore, for a proper blending to take place, and for peace to reign, Christ must be the rallying point.***

Jesus changes people. He changes a man's nature, mentality (mind set), emotional behaviour, habits, character, taste and desires, visions and dreams. If you let him into your life and marriage, he will make you and your marriage better. It is not enough to invite him into your life. Many who have invited him in, did not allow him to have full control of their lives, as a result, there is no change. Until Jesus is permitted to have full control, things will remain the way they are. Many go to church, hear sermons, read the Word and pray to become better, but will not make effort to practice what they learn from the Word of God. This is self-deceit.

There will always be conflict in the home as long as the parties involved refuse to become like Christ in thoughts, speech and conduct. Until Jesus begins to live in you and not just in the pages of the Bible and in the church building, marriage will be far from what is desired. Jesus never forces anyone to do his will. He is so gentle that he is always at the door knocking and waiting that you will open up to those 'no go' areas of your life so that he can enter and clean you up and in the process make your family life a better and peaceful one.

## ONENESS IS ONLY POSSIBLE THROUGH THE NATURE OF CHRIST

*"I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them as you have loved me." (John 17:22-23)*

Unity is only possible when Christ is reigning in the heart of the husband and the wife. Outside of Him, there can be no real unity. Unity starts from the spirit of man when the two are bonded by the same covenant of life in Christ and the Holy Spirit is living in both of them as they give their lives to Christ. As both continue to surrender their lives to the word of God and allow the Spirit of God to lead them, things become better. The only problem is that people bear the name or title 'born again', but don't live the life.

## YOU HAVE THE NATURE OF CHRIST

If you have truly given your life to Christ, you must believe that you have the nature of Christ in you and you can live the life of Christ if you submit to that nature.

*“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or of a husband’s will, but born of God.” (John 1:12,13)*

*“But he who unites himself with Lord Jesus is one with him in spirit.” (1 Corinthians 6:17)*

*“In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgement, because in this world we are like him.” (1John 4:17)*  
*Read 1John 5:13; 1 Corinthians 2:16; Galatians 6:26-29*

You must believe that you have this divine nature of God in you through Christ to enable you manifest it. If you don’t believe, it won’t manifest. It means also that your life must change for the better and you cannot remain what you used to be. This nature is holy, righteous and perfect. Read Ephesians 4:24 and Hebrews 10:10,14.

If you yield to this nature you will become like Christ in thoughts, speech, faith, character, behaviour and actions. And when you are like Christ, there will be understanding, tolerance, respect, patience with one another, much love, submission, co-operation, happiness and joy. Evil will be completely absent. And this is what everyone is looking for in a marriage. It is only possible through Christ.

### **TO BECOME LIKE CHRIST**

#### **1. Decide you want to manifest his life and not just to be called a Christian.**

Give your life to him in the true sense of the word.

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)*

#### **2. Know who you are in him.**

*“That the communication of your faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of everything which is in you in Christ Jesus.” (Philemon 6)*

The knowledge of who you are in God will renew your mind and help you to live the life of God with ease and naturally too. Read Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4: 22-24. You cannot live the life of God with the mindset of an unbeliever. You need to see like God to appreciate life from God’s perspective. You need to think like God to live like God. That is why you need to know what God says about the life you have in Christ.

#### **3. Believe whatever the word of God says about you.**

Believe you are who He says you are. Believe you have what He says you have. Believe you can do what He says you can do. This life is a life of faith. You may not see

it in you or think it is true, but yet it is true because God says so. Just believe Him. It is a life of faith. Read Mark 11:22; John 6:63; Romans 6:11.

**4. Change your mentality.**

Drop the mindset of a sinner (Ephesians 2:3). Take on the mindset of God to enable you live the life of God (Ephesians 4:22-24; Romans 12: 2). Spend time with the word of God to enable you receive a new mindset to serve God well to God's approval.

**5. Discipline yourself.**

Exercise restraint. Master yourself. Manifest self-control. Be careful to do according to all that is written. Let the word of God guide your steps. Let your life be lived in accordance with the word of God. Read Joshua 1:8; Romans 6:12-23; Romans 12:1; 1 Corinthians 9:27; Philippians 3:7-14

**6. Follow the footsteps of Jesus Christ.**

Always ask yourself, 'If Jesus were to be in my position, what will he do right now?' Do what He will do.

*"To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly." (1 Peter 2:21-23)*

**7. Submit yourself to learning the ways of God under guidance from God's servants.**

Read Ephesians 4:11-13; Hebrews 10:25.

**CONCLUSION**

From all that we have seen so far, I conclude that marriage will become what God intended it to be as we become more like him. Let the husband conform to the image of Christ. Let the wife conform also to Christ, and the home will become a heaven on earth.

Pursue also the goal of introducing your children to Christ. Teach them, and pray for them that they may conform to Christ. Let everyone in the family become like Christ and you will see and experience unprecedented happiness, peace, joy, and prosperity.  
God            bless            your            marriage            in            Jesus            name.

