

# God's GOAL in me

## God's Goal In Me My Part(Part Two)

God's goal in me is to transform who I am into the image of Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:28-30

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

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Being transformed is a process. In that process there is God's part and there is my part. God's part is to call, justify, and glorify.

To help us do our part, God has given us His church.

1 Timothy 3:14-15

14 These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

15 but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

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When God said church, God did not mean a building.



When God said church, God did not mean a worship service.



When God said church, God meant a community of believers that are family to me.



How does the church help me grow into the image of Jesus?

1. With the church I learn what it means to be like Jesus Christ.
2. With the church, I live what I learn in the circumstances of my life.
3. With the church I lead others to be like Jesus Christ.

After Jesus called 12 men to be His disciples, He sent them out on a mission, two by two.  
Luke 9:1-6

9 Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.

2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

3 And He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece.

4 "Whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart.

5 And whoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them."

6 So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere. NKJV

Why did Jesus send them out on this difficult mission so soon after He had called them to follow Him?

This was not an easy mission.

- These men were offering the Jews a new religion they did not want.
- These men were so immature.  
These were the same guys that would argue about who is the greatest; want to call down fire on the enemies of Jesus; would deny they knew Him when they were threatened.
- These men were not experienced at walking by faith.  
Jesus told them to take nothing for the journey.
- These men were going to experience rejection.

Why did Jesus send them out on this difficult mission so soon after He had called them to follow Him?

Jesus used the mission of leading others to Him to accomplish His mission in them!

After I became a Christian, I discovered something about spiritual growth.

God uses the process of leading others to Jesus to make me like Jesus!

I discovered the more time I spend discipling others, the more I grow into the likeness of Jesus.

Examples of this principal of growth:

- AA-spiritual awakening that leads to sobriety

Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

- Bob Hoffman-better basketball player
- Parenting children

I would be a much more mature parent today than I was when I was 22 years old. But God did not tell me to wait until I was a mature parent to have children. He used the process of raising children to make me a better parent.

- Bob Burgess discipleship process

If you are going to wait until you are mature enough to start discipling others, you are not going to mature.

The devil has deceived the church into believing that members can become mature in Christ without leading others to Christ!

Some of the most immature believers I know have been Christians for many years, are very knowledgeable of the bible, but they are not engaged in discipling others.

My part is God's goal in me is with the church I lead others to be like Jesus Christ.

#### **4. With the church I must lean on God's power.**

Acts 4:23-31

23 And being let go, they went to their own companions and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them.

24 So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,

25 who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: 'Why did the nations rage, And the people plot vain things?

26 The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the Lord and against His Christ.'

27 "For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together

28 to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done.

29 Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,

30 by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."

31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.  
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I cannot become like Jesus with just my new nature and my will power. The world, the flesh, and the devil are too powerful. I need the power of God to put off the old man and put on the new man. When I experience His power, I can walk in the Spirit. I can live a holy life. Nothing can stop me!

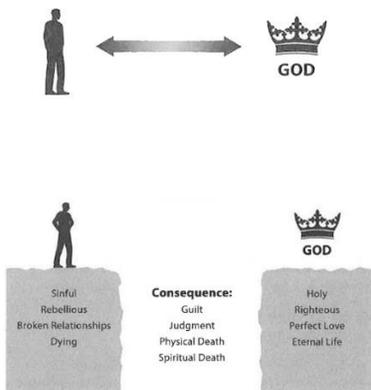
His power is available through prayer with His church. Our part is to surrender to His will and ask for His power with His church. Our part is to be transparent about our fears and failures and pray with the church.

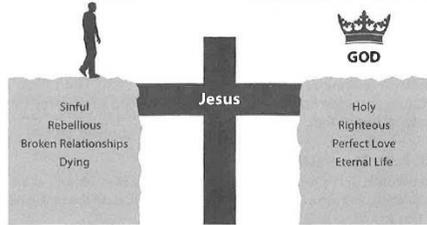
My part in God's goal in me is to lean on His power with the church.

To cooperate with God's goal in me...

1. With His church, I must learn what He wants me to change
2. With His church, I must live what I learn in the circumstances of life
3. With His church, I must lead others to be like Christ
4. With His church, I must lean on His power

Will you do your part to cooperate with God's goal in you?  
Will you receive Jesus?





With the church, will you learn what it means to be like Christ?

With the church, will you live out what you learn?

With the church, will you lead others to be like Christ?

With the church, will you lean on His power?

Jesus has provided His church to help me become like Him.

- I learn with the church
- I live out what I learn with the church
- I lead others with the church
- I lean on God's power with the church

I am one living stone that God is using to build up a spiritual house that honors Jesus. (1 Peter 2:4-5)

[1 Peter 2:4-5](#)

[4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,](#)

[5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.](#)

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God has worked in us and is at work in us to make us like Christ with His church. He wants to transform us!

Wouldn't it be incredible if the church did not have to use gifted communicators and professional praise bands to attract people to its gatherings?

What if those that God was calling to Himself were drawn to our gatherings because they saw Jesus in us at our small gatherings and they experienced Jesus when they were with us! The church can only have those small gatherings if every follower of Jesus assumes the responsibility of leading others to be like Jesus.