

*For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. Romans 8:29 (NIV)*

## **Like Him**

**I have a plan for your life. Do you want to hear what it is?** Yes, I would. **My plan is that you will become like my Son. I want to mold and shape your life so that you look a lot like Him. When people see you, I want them to see my Son in you.** I'd like that very much. That is the desire of my heart. **Yes, I know. Where do you think that desire came from?** From you, I'm sure. **What makes you so sure of that?** Such a dramatic change of desire within me could have only come from you. For so much of my life, my desires were very much in step with everyone else in this world. **How so?** I lived exclusively for my own pleasure. I did what felt good. All my thoughts, words, and actions were molded and shaped by the world's value system. **They're not now?** No, I now know that you are in the process of changing me. **Do you like what I am doing in you?** Yes, I do. **Tell me about that.**

I like that you are changing my heart and mind. Your work is obviously an inside job. **Why do you think that?** I've noticed that there are a lot of sinful things that I don't do or say anymore. It's not because I've gotten better at keeping a lid on them either. No, it's because you have been changing me on the inside so that I look and act different on the outside. **You got that right. What have I been using to transform your heart and mind?**

You have been molding me and shaping me by your word. You have given me such a hunger for your word. I have been thinking deeply about it day and night. **Yes, I know. That pleases me. How do you think my word has been working in you?** Your word changes my thoughts. It's like your Holy Spirit uses your word to push my old thoughts out of my heart and mind. It seems like the Holy Spirit is using your word like a sword to fight in me, for me, and through me. Sometimes old patterns of thought and action don't leave without a battle. You are winning the battle over my heart and mind one day at a time. For that I am so very thankful.

**I know that you have been impatient about the changes I've been making in your life. You've wanted them to come more quickly. Yes, I have. That desire is good. Yet, I want you to trust me. It would be the devil's trick for you to become discouraged. He wants you to give up and fall back into your old patterns of living. Keep your eyes on me. It is me that is changing you day-by-day and moment-by-moment. By the way, when do you think my work in you will be complete and finished?** When I'm living with you forever in heaven. **Yes, that's right.**

*Father, I welcome your work in me. Mold my life so that I become like your son in all I think, say, and do. Help me to stand against the world's efforts to conform me into its image. I want people to see Jesus Christ living in me. Amen*

**Identity** *Conformed To The Likeness*

For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

NIV Romans 8:29

**Identity** *Conformed To The Image*

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

ESV Romans 8:29

**Identity** *To Become Like*

For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

NLT Romans 8:29

**Identity** *Conformed To The Image*

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.

NKJV Romans 8:29

**Identity** *Conformed To The Image*

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.

NRSV Romans 8:29

**Identity** *Shape The Lives*

God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him.

MSG Romans 8:29

**Identity** *Molded Into The Image*

For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren.

AMP Romans 8:29

**Identity** *Become Like*

For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him—and all along he knew who would—should become like his Son, so that his Son would be the First, with many brothers.

TLB Romans 8:29

**Identity** *Conformed To The Image*

For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

NASB Romans 8:29

**Identity** *Would Be Like*

God knew them before he made the world, and he decided that they would be like his Son so that Jesus would be the firstborn of many brothers.

NCV Romans 8:29



