

*And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. 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. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory. Romans 8:28-30 (NLT)*

## **Become Like Him**

**I have a purpose and a plan for your life. Do you know what my purpose and plan is?** Yes, I do. **Tell me about my purpose and plan for your life.** You want to make me to be like your Son, Jesus Christ. **Yes, I do. How will I make you to be like my Son? What will I use to mold and shape your life so that you become like my Son?** You will use all of life to make me to be like your Son. You will use all the twists and turns and ups and downs of life to shape my life according to your purposes and plans. **Yes, I will. How does that sound to you?** It sounds like some of the molding and shaping of my life might be painful. I'm pretty sure that I will not like every moment of every day. **No, you won't. I don't want you to be confused about something.** What's that? **I will not bring all kinds of pain and suffering on you just so that I can use it to mold and shape your life. Don't ever think of me as a source or author of pain, suffering and evil in your life. That's not who I am. That is not what I do. This world is not how I designed it. This world has been broken by the power of sin. You will experience pain and suffering and disappointment and loss in this world just like everyone else who has ever lived in it. I will be with you through all the twists and turns and ups and downs of life. I will weep when you weep. I will share your joy. You are right though. What am I right about? I will use all of life to mold and shape your life. I will be able to take the worst of circumstances and bring good even out of them. You already know that to be true, don't you?** Yes, in the greatest of pain and in the midst of my suffering you have come to show me your love. You have drawn near to me as I have drawn near to you. When my heart has been broken you have been there to comfort me. The pain and suffering that I have gone through, I would never want to go through again. But, I would not want to trade away how much I have come to know you and your love in the darkest of those hours. You have been using all of life to make me to be like your Son. **Yes, and I will bring my work in you to full completion.**

*Heavenly Father, thank you for calling me to come to you. I know you have a plan for my life. You want to make me to be like your Son. I welcome you to use all the twists and turns and ups and downs of life to shape me into the person you want me to be. Amen*

## **Knowing God** *Called According To His Purpose*

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 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. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

NIV Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *Called According To His Purpose*

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. 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. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.

NLT Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *Called According To His Purpose*

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. 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. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

NRSV Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *Called According To His Design And Purpose*

We are assured and know that [God being a partner in their labor] all things work together and are [fitting into a plan] for good to and for those who love God and are called according to [His] design and purpose. 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. And those whom He thus foreordained, He also called; and those whom He called, He also justified (acquitted, made righteous, putting them into right standing with Himself). And those whom He justified, He also glorified [raising them to a heavenly dignity and condition or state of being].

AMP Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *Called According To His Purpose*

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 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; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

NASB Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *Called According To His Purpose*

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 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. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

ESV Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *Called According To His Purpose*

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

NKJV Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *Our Lives Of Love For God*

That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good. 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. After God made that decision of what his children should be like, he followed it up by calling people by name. After he called them by name, he set them on a solid basis with himself. And then, after getting them established, he stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what he had begun.

MSG Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *Fitting Into His Plans*

And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans. 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. And having chosen us, he called us to come to him; and when we came, he declared us "not guilty," filled us with Christ's goodness, gave us right standing with himself, and promised us his glory.

TLB Romans 8:28-30

## **Knowing God** *He Called, Because That Was His Plan*

We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. They are the people he called, because that was his plan. 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. God planned for them to be like his Son; and those he planned to be like his Son, he also called; and those he called, he also made right with him; and those he made right, he also glorified.

NCV Romans 8:28-30

**Called According To His Purpose** Year \_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_

**Knowing God** – Romans 8:28-30

**In Context:** *Read Romans 8*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. 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. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory. Romans 8:28-30 (NLT)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

And | we | know that | God causes | everything | to work together | for | the good | of those | who love | God | and | are called | according to | his purpose | for them. | 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. | And | having | chosen them, | he called them | to come | to him. | And | having | called them, | he gave them | right standing | with himself. | And | having | given them | right standing, | he | gave them | his glory. Romans 8:28-30 (NLT)

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Heavenly Father, thank you for calling me to come to you. I know you have a plan for my life. You want to make me to be like your Son. I welcome you to use all the twists and turns and ups and downs of life to shape me into the person you want me to be. Amen

**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

**What plan did God have in mind when He called you according to His purpose?**

**How have you grown in love with God since He called you to come to Him?**

**How has God been conforming you to be like His Son since you began to follow Him?**

How has God forgiven you of your sins and given you right standing before Him?

How has God been causing all things to work together for good as you have loved, followed and served Him?

When has it taken time to see how God would work difficult circumstances together for good in your life?

Why can you be certain that God will bring to completion the work He wants to do in and through your life?

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow God to use all the ups and downs and twists and turns of life to help make you to be like His Son.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that God will accomplish His purpose and bring to completion His plan to make you to be like His Son.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how God has been making you to be like His Son Jesus Christ.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you allow your Heavenly Father to use all of life to make you to be like His Son.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Heavenly Father, use all the twists and turns and ups and downs of life to make me to be like your Son.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Heavenly Father, how do you want to make me to be more like your Son today?*

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