

God's Goal for My Life

Charles Stanley

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 8.
- B. We should all have goals and ask what God's goals are for our lives.
- C. God's goal for our lives is to be conformed to the likeness of Christ.

II. God is in the process of making believers more and more like Jesus.

- A. The more we submit to Christ, the more the light of Christ is available to others.
- B. What we focus on the most, we become like. (II Corinthians 3:16)

III. God is shaping us into the likeness of Jesus' body. (Philippians 3)

- A. God is so intent on shaping us into the likeness of His Son that He has done an amazing work.
- B. God is engineering all the circumstances of our life in order to bring us into the likeness of His Son. (Romans 8:28)
- C. Even when people sin against God, He uses that to conform us to the likeness of His Son.
- D. God is working it through His sovereign hand for good.

IV. What God did to shape a believer into Christ's likeness beforehand.

- A. He foreknew us.
 - 1. God has given man free will.
 - 2. Just because God knows a man's choice does not mean that God makes the choice for him.
- B. He marked us off by predestining us.
- C. He called us.
- D. He justified us, declaring us no longer guilty through the cross.
- E. He glorified us.

V. God has done everything He can to tell us how much He loves us.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says that God's goal is to get everyone into heaven? Explain.

2. How do you reconcile God's predestination and man's free will?

3. What does it mean to be conformed to the likeness of Christ?
