



How can we be “formed” into the image of Christ himself? As it turns out, we all are being formed every minute of every day. The question is whether we will enable the Spirit of God to have his way as He works in our lives.

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

**Group Ice-Breaker:**

- (1) In “Beauty and the Beast,” how exactly does the Beast become a beast? What were the contributing factors to his behavior?

**WE CAN BE LIKE HIM.** Read Luke 6:40; Rom 8:29; 2 Cor 3:18; 1 John 3:2. Discuss the power of these verses. How can we be “like” the perfect Jesus? What does this say about letting the Spirit have his way in our lives?

**CONFORMED MEANS FORMED “WITH”.** Read Rom 8:29. Google “the rock cycle.” How long does it take for rocks to form? What elements/conditions are involved? Why does time and pressure lead to hardness? Now consider what it would mean for Godly influence over time to develop you.

**WE DESIRE MORE THAN WE THINK.** We are lovers first, thinkers second. We overestimate our knowledge and underestimate our desires.

**WE ARE FORMED BY OUR DESIRES.** Spiritual formation is not a Christian thing, it’s a human thing! Every person on the planet is being spiritually formed. But will it be malformation or sanctification?

**WE ARE & BECOME WHAT WE LOVE.** If I asked you “what do you love?”, you might think you know the answer. But what if we examined your habits? What you give your time, money, focus, and attention to is what you love. And over time, you become what you love. Why are 80’s year olds the best people you know or the worst people you know? Formation!

**WE CAN CHOOSE TO BE FORMED INTO HIS LIKENESS.** Spiritual formation by God’s Spirit is a “passive” process (where we surrender to HIS transforming power. But it an active process in that we must allow the Spirit to be at work.

**IT IS A SLOW PROCESS OF CHANGING WHAT WE LOVE.** We like things fast. But sanctification is the slow process by which God doesn’t change change what we think and do, but what we desire.