

## “How To Be More Like Jesus: The Implausible Prayer”

[www.pmchurch.tv](http://www.pmchurch.tv)

### □ The Prayer

- Ephesians 3:14-19
- The Creator and King, who rules over a \_\_\_\_\_ galaxies and a \_\_\_\_\_ stars across \_\_\_\_\_ billion light years (and has \_\_\_\_\_ all the stars—Psalm 147:4), wants to \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.
- The implausible prayer: “That Christ may \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_ by faith.”
- “May your \_\_\_\_\_ become His \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - John 14:23
  - Jesus: “We [the Father and I] will come to you and make Our \_\_\_\_\_ with you.”
- *Desire of Ages*: “The contemplation of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God will stir the heart and arouse the powers of the soul as nothing else can.” (478)

### □ The Product

- Frederick Buechner: “In my books, and sometimes even in real life, I have it in me at my best to be a saint to other people, and by saint I mean life-giver, someone who is able to bear to others something of the Holy Spirit. . . . Sometimes, by the grace of God, I have it in me to be \_\_\_\_\_ to other people. And so, of course, have we all—the life-giving, life-saving, and healing power to be saints, to be \_\_\_\_\_, maybe at rare moments even to ourselves.” (*The Longing for Home* 28)
  - When Christ dwells within us, He spreads Himself \_\_\_\_\_ us.
  - Stuart Devenish: “Every Christian generation has produced two kinds of Christians: the common, ordinary garden variety, and those who have discovered the deeper life. . . . [a life that] reflects a deep experience of Christ-likeness” (quoted in *Beyond Well-Being: Spirituality and Human Flourishing* 58).
  - The grand goal of the everlasting gospel!
  - “Be like Jesus, this my song, in the home and in the throng . . .”
- NB: This is a *collective* invitation.
  - “That Christ may dwell in your hearts [plural] by faith.”
  - The GROW Group experience: “. . . together with all the Lord’s holy people” (v 18)
  - F. F. Bruce: “. . . it is Paul who gives distinctive expression to the idea of all believers, whatever their race or social status, united in a \_\_\_\_\_ life as fellow-members of the body. . . . [T]he prime function of the indwelling Spirit in the believing community, as in the individual believer, is for Paul the reproduction of the Christ-likeness in his people, until the whole body corporate attains ‘the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ’ (Ephesians 4:13).” (*Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free* 210, 211)
  - Join a GROW Group now @ <http://www.pmchurch.org/article/563/grow-groups/signup>
- John Gilbert—“If Jesus Came to Your House”

I want to be more like Jesus  
I’m following in His ways  
I’m trying to love as He did  
In all that I do and say  
At times I am tempted to make a wrong choice  
But I try to listen as the still small voice whispers:

### REFRAIN

“Love one another as Jesus loves you  
Try to show kindness in all that you do  
Be gentle and loving in deed and in thought  
For these are the things Jesus taught.”

I'm trying to love my neighbor  
I'm learning to serve my friends  
I watch for the day of gladness  
When Jesus will come again  
I try to remember the lessons He taught  
Then the Holy Spirit enters into my thoughts saying:  
—adapted from Janice Kapp Perry

trillion, septillion, 45.7, names, live, YOU, dwell, hearts, heart, home, home, love, Christ, Christs, around,  
common

**"HOW TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS"**

**CONNECT CARD**

Mr. / Mrs. / Miss / Ms.

Change in contact information

January 18, 2014

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

1st Time Guest  2nd Time Guest  Regular Attender  Member

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR AGE GROUP:**

Junior  High School

Collegiate  20s

30s  40s

50s  60s

70s and up

If guest, how did you hear about PMC? \_\_\_\_\_

(Flyer, TV, Google search, name of person who invited you, etc.)

**Place this card in the offering plate or hand it in at the Welcome Center as you leave.**

**MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS:**

- I want my heart to be His home.
- Please send me the link to "A New Way to Pray."
- I want to join a GROW Group and help grow a collective Christ-likeness.

GG# \_\_\_\_\_ GG# \_\_\_\_\_ GG# \_\_\_\_\_

**I'M INTERESTED IN:**

- Beginning a relationship with Jesus
- Information on baptism
- Information on church membership
- Becoming a GROW Group leader
- Receiving Bible studies

Comments, Prayer Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

**Place this card in the offering plate or hand it in at the Welcome Center as you leave.**

Feel free to mail this in to:

New Perceptions  
Box 0970  
Andrews University  
Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0970