

# GOD-SHAPED in 2014

## *What Does It Mean to be Christ-Centered?*

- A. *Colossians 1:1-20* — Paul begins his letter to the saints at Colossae on a truly magnificent note.
- B. The clearest representation of what God desires to shape us into is the person of Jesus Christ.

### I. What Does It Mean to be Christ-Centered?

- A. *Centered* can be used in a variety of different ways:
  - A point or axis around which everything revolves: *the sun is the center of the solar system.*
  - The source of an influence, action, or force: *the center of a problem.*
  - To come into focus; converge; concentrate: *the book centers on a particular character.*
- B. When we realize that “*of Christ*” appears nearly 100 times in the New Testament of God’s written revelation, it’s not hard to discern what (or who) is to be at the “center” of our attention.
- C. If am I Christ-centered:
  - I will draw new \_\_\_\_\_ and identity from him (*John 1:4*).
  - I will \_\_\_\_\_ in him (*John 15:4*).
  - I will \_\_\_\_\_ upon him for everything (*John 15:5*).
  - I will \_\_\_\_\_ all things through him (*Rom 12:1-2*).
  - I will trust God’s providential \_\_\_\_\_ (*John 15:2*).
  - I will bear the \_\_\_\_\_ of his Spirit (*Gal 5:22-24*).
  - I will hunger and thirst for his \_\_\_\_\_ and his will (*Matt 5:6*).
  - I will envelop my life with \_\_\_\_\_ (*John 15:7*).
  - I will follow his loving and wise \_\_\_\_\_ (*John 15:10*).
  - My heavenly Father will be \_\_\_\_\_ (*John 15:8*).
  - My \_\_\_\_\_ will be full (*John 15:11*).

### II. THE QUESTION: “Will I Allow Every Aspect of My Life to be Shaped in the Mold of Jesus?”

- A. My daily walk as an \_\_\_\_\_ (*Matt 5-7*).
- B. My perspective on \_\_\_\_\_ (*Luke 2:52*).
- C. My approach to \_\_\_\_\_ (*Eph 6:5-8*).
- D. My \_\_\_\_\_ life (*Eph 5:20-33*).
- E. My conception of and dedication to the \_\_\_\_\_ (*Col 1:17-18*).

### Conclusion:

- A. The ultimate aim of it all? “*That in everything he might be preeminent*” (*Col 1:18*).
- B. If you haven’t been recognizing him as “preeminent,” reconciliation is available (*Col 1:19-23; 2:8-13*).