

# Transformation Requires Adoption

## *Making My Faith My Own*

### Introduction:

- A. To **adopt** is “to choose or take as one’s own; to make one’s own by selection or assent; to choose and follow; to take on; to assume for oneself; to accept and put into effect.”
- B. God has blessed me with the ability to **discern** and expects me to use that ability (*Eph 5:15-17*).
  - 1. But discovering God’s will for my life is just Step #1 toward real transformation.
  - 2. Step #2 is to **adopt** God’s way of thinking as my own.
- D. What is the end goal of my God-given ability to discern and adopt? (*Rom. 11:36*).  
**Know** God > **Love** God > **Obey** God > **Show** God.
- E. Living a God-centered, Christ-saturated, Spirit-led life requires my willingness to adopt.

### I. Adoption, More Often Than Not, Begins With a Sense of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. In John 6, Jesus delivered some “*hard sayings*” (6:60).
  - 1. “*After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him*” (6:66).
  - 2. When asked about leaving, Peter replied, “*Lord to whom shall we go?*” (6:68-69).

B. Transformation is not a spectator sport!

### II. Adoption Requires the Setting of My \_\_\_\_\_ (*Colossians 3:1-4*).

- A. The Spirit’s carefully-laid foundation of context:
  - 1. “*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God*” (1:1).
  - 2. “*The word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you*” (1:5-6).
  - 3. Paul’s prayer for the saints in Colossae (1:9-14).
  - 4. Christ exalted as preeminent over all (1:15-23).
  - 5. Paul’s diligent ministry for the sake of the church (1:24-2:5).
  - 6. The dangers of being led away from Christ by human philosophy and tradition (2:6-23).
    - a. Reminder of who Christ is and their allegiance to him (2:9-15).
    - b. Therefore, let no one disqualify you (2:16-23).
- B. “*If then...seek the things that are above...set your MINDS on things that are above*” (3:1-4).
  - 1. *phroneite* (Greek) — “to be minded” in a certain way; includes values and affections.
  - 2. Similar to words used in *Romans 12:3* and *Philippians 2:5*.
- C. We regularly set our DVRs and our alarm clocks. God expects us to first set our minds.
  - 1. **Why?** “*You have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God*” (3:3).
  - 2. **How?** “*God made you alive together with Christ*” (2:11-14).
  - 3. **What is the resulting blessing?** \_\_\_\_\_! (*Galatians 3:23-4:7*)