



BECOMING BY THE HAND OF GOD

**From Process to Purpose:
A Sacred Journey of Transformation**

GLORIA NGWENDSON

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ENDORSEMENTS FOR BECOMING BY THE HAND OF GOD

The word *becoming* is among the most profound in the human vocabulary. It suggests movement without haste, formation without spectacle, transformation without coercion. It carries within it the quiet architecture of time.

Whether we reflect upon the slow moral evolution of a civilization across centuries, or the intricate development of a single human life from conception to maturity and eventual departure from this world, becoming governs growth. Nothing of consequence appears complete. Everything worthy unfolds.

Across theology and psychology, education and leadership, family life and community building, becoming remains central. Parents nurture it. Teachers cultivate it. Mentors labor toward it. Human flourishing is not an event to be achieved; it is a life to be formed.

Yet modern culture strains against this truth. We live in an age that prizes immediacy. Speed is mistaken for progress. Visibility is confused with substance—information substitutes for formation. The microwave has quietly become a metaphor for maturity.

The results are evident: condemnation without restoration, impulse without reflection, stimulation without depth, ambition without stewardship, influence without integrity. These patterns reveal impatience with process—a discomfort with becoming.

Into this tension, Gloria Ngwendson's *Becoming by the Hand of God* speaks with clarity and steadiness. It reminds us of a foundational distinction within the Christian faith: salvation is instantaneous; formation is progressive.

The Church rightly celebrates justification by faith. Yet sanctification—the gradual shaping of the believer into Christlikeness—unfolds through surrender, obedience, and time. Scripture describes transformation as the Spirit's ongoing work within a yielded life: "*But we all... are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory*" (2 Cor. 3:18). The grammar itself is instructive: "*Are being transformed.*" Continuous. Patient. Purposeful.

This book refuses shortcuts. It restores spiritual formation to its proper place—a covenantal partnership under the shaping hand of God.

The image of God's hand runs deeply through Scripture. It is the hand that delivers Israel from bondage, sustains the prophet in famine, disciplines in love, and forms clay upon the wheel. In biblical imagination, the hand of God signifies both sovereignty and nearness—transcendent power joined with intimate care.

To live under that hand is to accept that formation includes pruning as well as promotion, obscurity as well as visibility, correction as well as comfort.

In an era that celebrates platform more than preparation, this work insists that obedience precedes authority; that boldness without submission becomes presumption; that calling without character is fragile; that influence without interior formation ultimately collapses.

Becoming, as Gloria presents it, is not self-construction but surrender. It is not self-actualization detached from transcendence, but identity anchored in Christ. The Christian life is not static belief; it is directional conformity—*“to be conformed to the image of His Son”* (Rom. 8:29). Such conformity is neither accidental nor hurried. It is shaped in time by the hand of the Potter.

These pages speak to believers who sense unfinished depth. They address leaders who understand that gifting cannot replace obedience. They invite communities to value maturity over momentum and formation over performance.

Becoming requires patience. It requires humility. It requires endurance. It requires trust in the unseen work of God. Yet it is through this sacred process that the believer moves from glory to glory.

Gloria Ngwendson writes with theological clarity and pastoral sincerity. Her voice is steady, Scripture-rooted, and marked by humility. She does not write as one who has arrived, but as one who has yielded—and that posture gives this work quiet authority. These reflections are the fruit of a life shaped over time beneath the hand of God.

This book will not rush you. It will invite you to slow down, to trust the shaping, to embrace surrender, to allow the Hand that saved you also to form you. Read attentively. Reflect honestly. And courageously yield to the sacred process of becoming.

Pastors Peter & Pauline Kange

Authors, Founders & Lead Pastors of Reaching The Nations Ministries

There are moments in life when we encounter a message that does not merely inform us—it searches us. It slows our hurried pace, interrupts our assumptions, and invites us into deeper reflection. Becoming by the Hand of God is such a work. In an age defined by immediacy, visibility, and performance, Gloria Ngwendson offers something both rare and necessary: a call back to process. Not the process defined by human ambition, but the sacred, often unseen process by which God forms character, anchors identity, and prepares individuals for purposeful living.

This book reminds us of a truth we are prone to forget—that who we are becoming is more important than what we are achieving. Having spent my life studying leadership, mentoring emerging leaders, and writing about intentional living, I have come to understand that the most significant transformations do not happen suddenly. They happen quietly. They happen in surrender. They happen in seasons when applause is absent, but formation is active. Gloria captures this reality with remarkable clarity and spiritual depth.

What distinguishes this manuscript is its unwavering commitment to formation over performance. It does not offer shortcuts, formulas, or motivational platitudes. Instead, it presents the reader with something far more enduring: an invitation to yield to the shaping hand of God. Through Scripture, personal testimony, and thoughtful

reflection, Gloria demonstrates that spiritual maturity is not accidental. It is intentional. It is cultivated through obedience, refined through adversity, and sustained through trust. Her voice carries both conviction and humility. She writes not as one standing above the reader, but as one walking alongside—testifying to the faithfulness of God through seasons of growth, stretching, and refinement. This posture gives the book both credibility and warmth. It speaks to the heart of the believer who senses there is more—more depth, more purpose, and more transformation available under God’s direction.

This book is especially timely for leaders, mentors, and believers who recognize that influence without formation is fragile. Gloria reminds us that God prepares vessels before He positions them. He shapes hearts before He assigns platforms. He builds foundations capable of sustaining the weight of purpose.

In my own work, I have emphasized the urgency of intentional living—the responsibility to make today count in light of tomorrow’s calling. Gloria’s work complements this truth beautifully by reminding us that intentional living begins with intentional surrender. Our greatest responsibility is not merely to do more, but to become more—more aligned with God’s purpose, more grounded in His truth, and more surrendered to His hand.

Becoming by the Hand of God is not a book to be rushed. It is a book to be received. It will challenge you, steady you, and ultimately strengthen you. It will help you see that the process you are in is not accidental—it is purposeful. The same hand that calls you is the hand that forms you. I recommend this work to you with confidence. May you read it with openness, reflect with honesty, and embrace the sacred journey of becoming.

Dr. Madison N. Ngafeeson

Author: *The Day Before Tomorrow: How to Make Today Count!*

Business Professor, Author, and Leadership Coach

OVERVIEW

Becoming by the Hand of God is a Christ-centered spiritual formation book that invites readers beyond belief into a lifelong journey of transformation. Rooted in Scripture and written with clarity and simplicity without shallowness, yet theologically sound. This book explores the sacred process of becoming: how God, by His own hand, shapes individuals, communities, and leaders into the likeness of Christ over time.

Rather than offering formulas, quick fixes, or techniques, this work presents formation as a holy partnership between God and the believer in the context of community. It calls readers to slow down, trust the work of God's hand, and courageously embrace transformation as it unfolds through obedience, empowerment, strength, freedom, wisdom, identity, community, and ultimately, Christlikeness.

Designed for individual readers, small groups, churches, and leaders at every level, this book includes embedded moments of reflection, activities, and prayer. It is not meant to be rushed through; it is an invitation to sit with the text at your own pace and live with the deep revelatory truths it offers. It is adaptable across denominations, seasons, and spiritual contexts.

DEDICATION

This book is first dedicated to my family, my covering and earthly inheritance - my husband, **Julius**, and our sons, **Joshua**, **Kaleb**, and **Micah**. Your love, patience, and strength have made room for me to obey God's call. I carry you with me on every page.

A special dedication to my mother, **Esther**, whose prayers and faith continue to shape my life, and in loving memory of my father, **Nelson**, whom I know would have been deeply proud.

Above all, all glory belongs to God, my source, my sustainer, the Author and Finisher of my faith.

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FOREWORD

There are some people one observes from a distance, and there are others one walks with closely enough to share in their experiences. For over two decades of marriage and ministry, I have had the privilege of walking beside Gloria - both as her husband and as her partner in the Father's vineyard.

This book, *Becoming by the Hand of God*, is not abstract. It is not borrowed language or secondhand revelation. It is the fruit of a life lived deliberately under the hand of God from her spiritual childhood into maturity. Choosing obedience when comfort would be easier has been her way. She labors in hidden seasons with the same excellence she brings to visible platforms. Her diligence is not seasonal; it is consistent. Her commitment to discipleship is not occasional; it is her life's work. Whether teaching one or many, she carries the same spirit of preparation, mastery, and reverence for the Word of God.

Gloria's love for the Body of Christ is profound. She is not driven by applause or recognition, but by a Kingdom conviction that believers must be formed before they are positioned. She pours into others across generations—sometimes at great personal cost—because she understands that spiritual formation is sacred work. She teaches with clarity, depth, and humility. She challenges with grace. She leads with diligence. Her life reflects the very message of

this book: becoming is not accidental; it is intentional, refined, and shaped by God's faithful hand.

This book invites you to walk the journey she has walked and continues to walk. Gloria understands that formation precedes fruitfulness, and that identity must be anchored before influence can be sustained.

I can testify as her husband that what she teaches publicly, she lives privately. Her devotion to Christ, her discipline, her excellence, and her Kingdom-minded vision have been evident in our home, in our church, and in the lives of those who have allowed her to invest in them.

Whether you are leading, rebuilding, waiting, or stepping into new territory, it is my prayer that as you read these pages, you will yield yourself fully to the shaping hand of God. May this book serve not only as instruction, but as a divine summons calling you into deeper obedience, greater maturity, stronger character, and enduring fruit.

Do not resist the process. Do not rush the formation. The same hand that calls you is the hand that sustains you.

The process may stretch you. It may refine you. But in the hands of God, as Gloria says, nothing is wasted, and everything is purposeful.

With gratitude and honor,

Dr. Julius Ngwendson

Chemistry Professor & Pastor

PURPOSE OF THE BOOK

Many believers come to Christ and yet remain unsure how transformation actually happens. We are saved, but not always formed. We believe, but often struggle to live from a place of depth, freedom, and maturity. *Becoming by the Hand of God* was written to address that gap.

This book reframes discipleship not as a checklist or a set of techniques, but as a lifelong journey; one shaped intentionally by God Himself. It invites readers to see formation as a sacred partnership: God at work, and us yielding, learning, and responding over time.

Throughout these pages, the emphasis is not on striving harder, but on becoming truer; choosing formation over information, identity over performance, transformation over behavior modification, and Christlikeness as the ultimate goal. This is an invitation to slow down, trust God's hand, and allow Him to shape every layer of our lives - spiritual, emotional, relational, and communal; until Christ is formed in us.

WHO THIS BOOK IS FOR

This book is written for:

- Believers who sense there is more depth available in their walk with God.
- Small groups and discipleship communities.
- Church members committed to spiritual growth.
- Leaders, mentors, and teachers stewarding others.
- Retreats and formation-focused ministries.

It is designed to be accessible across denominations and settings, and can be used both personally and in community. Reflection questions, personal letters from the author, and prayer moments are woven throughout to support thoughtful engagement rather than rushed consumption.

WHY THIS BOOK IS NEEDED

There is a growing hunger in the Church for discipleship that goes beyond activity, knowledge, or outward behavior. Many believers are well-informed, yet under-formed; faithful, yet weary because identity, character, and inner transformation were never fully addressed.

Becoming by the Hand of God responds to that hunger with a Scripture-rooted, formation-centered pathway. It does not promise quick fixes, but offers something deeper: a steady, faithful walk with God that produces maturity over time.

WHAT MAKES THIS BOOK DISTINCT

- It is formation-centered rather than self-help driven.
- It is written for both individual reflection and communal formation.
- It places strong emphasis on identity, healing, and spiritual maturity.
- It follows a clear progression from personal formation to living like Christ.
- It concludes with a commissioning; an invitation to continue “from glory to glory.”

INTRODUCTION

Personal Journey

Let me begin with sincere gratitude to God for the gift of inspiration in my life. Over the years, I have noticed that whenever I write, the words flow effortlessly through my pen, as if guided from above. I am deeply grateful that God has considered me a worthy vessel to entrust with this gift.

Many friends and acquaintances have encouraged me to write a book, usually after reading my social media posts or reflections. At first, I hesitated. My thoughts were varied and spontaneous, shared as they came, with no consistent focus or topic. I also did not want to write out of pressure or ego, simply to bear the title of “author.” I wanted to write something that mattered, something that would make a difference in someone’s life.

For many years, I led a group of women, mentoring, teaching, and walking alongside them through life’s challenges. In that sacred space, I received both affirmation and critique. Some moments stretched me deeply, painfully at times. In full transparency, there were seasons when my first response was not always submission or accountability, but resistance or quiet pride. Yet those moments became mirrors. They exposed areas still needing formation. They drove me to prayer. They humbled and refined me. What once felt uncomfortable became instructional. What felt like

tension became transformation. Out of those seasons grew a deep desire to leave a legacy, not just memories, but a resource. Something that would continue to minister long after I am no longer physically present. Something my generation and the next could glean from and receive a head start, a wiser beginning in their own journey of becoming. If my process can strengthen another, then every stretch was worth it.

Yet, despite these experiences, I wrestled with feelings of inadequacy. I often questioned whether I had anything new or valuable to offer. Who would read a book by me? Who would listen to what I have to say?

I now recognize that these were lies; subtle traps of self-doubt that had kept me in a place of insecurity. The truth is, I had already been making a difference in many people's lives, but I was blind to its impact. The journey to becoming who God intended me to be required breaking free from this mindset and learning to walk daily with Christ.

It is my hope that the reflections in this book, rooted in Scripture and shaped by my personal experiences, will encourage and transform the lives of readers. This book has been curated over the past 10 years; it is the culmination of inspirational materials over several years, if not decades. I feel strongly in my heart that the time is ripe for the release of my first book. I hope you appreciate the heart behind the pen of this writer.

The Call to Become

Every new journey feels uncertain because both the process and the outcome are unknown. Early in life, I realized something crucial: without purpose, we feel empty, no matter our achievements. Purpose can be found in many places. A talented artist, a skilled leader, or a gifted teacher can find joy in their work. But what happens when the stage is dark, the seats are empty, the invites stop coming, the office is empty, or the talent can no longer be exercised? The hollowness of this thought led me to a deep dive into the word of God, which has now marked my love for the scriptures, and to pull back the curtains beyond my physical realities into a spiritual journey that has culminated in this conclusion: Lasting fulfillment comes from God, not from performance or recognition.

Becoming is the journey into the unknown, entrusted to the One who knows all things. It begins with salvation - the opening of our eyes to God's love and the recognition that He has been watching over us all along. The years we thought wasted in ignorance or purposelessness are, in fact, part of God's careful shaping. Romans 8:28 reminds us: *"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."* God wastes nothing.

I remember the day I received Jesus, or perhaps I should say, the day Jesus found me. I was young, curious, and

analytical. Though I had heard the gospel many times, it was the first time I truly felt God's voice tug at my heart, urging me to respond. That day, I confessed my sins, acknowledged my need for Him, and was guided to join a Bible-believing church to begin learning and growing in my new faith. Even if you are a mature Christian or a teacher, I invite you to remain with me on this journey.

After losing my father and several close relatives at an early age, I began wrestling with questions about eternity. Though I had heard the gospel many times as a child, it was not until March 1995, at the age of seventeen, that I fully surrendered my life to Christ. My older brother invited me to the Billy Graham Global Mission Crusade in Douala, Cameroon. That evening, I responded to the call of salvation; it was a quiet yet life-altering encounter.

I still remember words similar to these being prayed: "Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I am sorry for my sins, and I want to turn from them. I trust Christ alone as my Savior, and I confess Him as my Lord. From this moment on, I want to serve Him and follow Him in the fellowship of His church. In Jesus' Name, amen." If you have never made this commitment, I invite you to do so. Salvation is the beginning of everything.

That summer, I joined a church community that, in hindsight, did not emphasize discipleship. It was in those

early years that I learned how vulnerable a new believer can be without spiritual covering and intentional formation.

Shortly after my conversion, I experienced significant persecution from a family member who believed I had joined a cult. At the time, Pentecostal Christianity was widely misunderstood and unpopular. I was unprepared for the weight of opposition. I did not always respond wisely. Eventually, I withdrew from consistent church involvement for nearly two years. Yet God's mercy pursued me.

During college, I found a new church home at The Apostolic Church Cameroon. There, I recommitted my life to Christ and became intentional about growth. I enrolled at Emmaus Bible Training Center, completed discipleship training, and submitted myself to mentorship under a seasoned believer in my local assembly.

That decision marked a turning point. I have not looked back since. I share this part of my journey so you understand the roots of my passion for discipleship and mentorship. My convictions were not formed in comfort; they were forged in experience. I believe deeply that mentorship is the bridge to legacy and that a formed, mature believer becomes a powerful vessel in the hand of God for advancing His Kingdom.

For decades, I have walked alongside others, sharing wisdom shaped by Scripture, suffering, obedience, and

grace. My life reflects a simple conviction: salvation is the beginning, formation is the journey, and becoming like Christ is the lifelong work of God's faithful hand.

Regardless of where you are in your journey with the Lord, it is important to remember that Salvation is not the destination; Jesus is. Too often, faith is reduced to a moment in time rather than embraced as a lifelong process of transformation. Scripture presents a different vision: one in which God continually shapes His people into the image of His Son. Think of it like an assembly line: there is a final product, but it moves step by step until it is perfected, packaged, and delivered to the owner.

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord...

2 Corinthians 3:18

To become is to submit to the ongoing work of God. Salvation is instantaneous, but formation is gradual. Becoming requires surrender, patience, courage, and trust in God's hand - even when His shaping feels uncomfortable or unclear.

This book is an invitation to that journey. It is written for those who are faithful yet hungry, committed yet longing for depth, for believers who sense that God is doing more than changing behavior; He is shaping identity, character,

and purpose. Becoming is not about striving to be better; it is about yielding to God's transforming work. It is not self-improvement, but Spirit-led formation. Christian life is not merely about what we believe; it is about who we are becoming.

As we get ready to embark on this journey together, let me reassure you: it is not just for the advanced or seasoned Christian; it is for Christians at all levels of faith and for individuals of all walks of life. It is not for those who have it all together; that is a fallacy, nobody's got it all together. It is for those who have placed their lives in God's hands. All you need is a surrendered or yielded heart. I will walk with you through the pages of this book. I do not come to you as one who is accomplished or arrived, nor do I come to you as one who is confused and conflicted. I have confidence born of a journey of surrender, which I am willing to share with my readers. Congratulations on taking this journey to formation that would hopefully bring you divine fulfillment.