Before you imitate God, you must be a worshiper of God!
You become like that which you worship!

Two texts.

One negative...

Psalm 135:18 (ESV) Those who make them (idols) become like them, so do all who trust in them.

One positive...

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV) And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

3 Walks:

- God is love therefore, walk in love. (Ephesians 5:1–2)

  1 John 4:7-8 (ESV) Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

- God is light therefore, walk as children of light. (Ephesians 5:3–14)

  1 John 1:5-7 (ESV) This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

- Jesus is the wisdom of God therefore, walk in wisdom. (Ephesians 5:15–17)

  1 Corinthians 1:30-31 (ESV) And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”
3 Ways to Imitate God:

1. Walk in love!

   Ephesians 5:1-2 (ESV)  
   \[1\] Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. \[2\] And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

   How do we walk in love?

   • By showing the Father’s adopting love

     Ephesians 1:5 (ESV) he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

   • By great acts of compassion, mercy, and grace

     James 1:27 (ESV) Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

   • By showing the Son’s sacrificial love

     Ephesians 5:1-2 (ESV)  
     \[1\] Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. \[2\] And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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10 Ways Every Christian Can Care for the Orphan and Waiting Child:
(taken from Hope for Orphans – a ministry of FamilyLife)
For more information on the following suggestions, please visit

1. Pray for them
2. Speak up for them
3. Provide for their needs
4. Support those who support them
5. Protect them from harm
6. Visit them where they are
7. Give sacrificially to them
8. Encourage them to press on
9. Adopt them into your family
10. Mobilize your church for them