

Theological Foundations for Leadership (TFL)

Creekstone Church • Spring 2011

Session #10 — “Adopted by God”

Introduction.

What are some characteristics of orphans? How do they relate to spiritual orphanhood?

Key passage: Galatians 4:4-7

4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, **5** to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. **6** And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” **7** So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir [of] God.

Questions:

1. What does “the fullness of time” mean?
2. What is significant about the fact that God sent Jesus?
3. What is important about Jesus being born of a woman and under the law? In other words, what was the purpose of the incarnation of Jesus?
4. What does it mean to redeem?
5. What is the goal of the gospel?
6. What are the implications of being an heir of God?

“The presence of the Holy Spirit within us reminds us of our sonship—the spirit of adoption whereby we cry, “ABBA, Father!” That is our relationship to God, and the moment we realize it, it transforms everything.” ~ *Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones*

Application:

1. Discuss this statement: “God cannot love me more and will not love me less.”
2. Do you really believe that you will never be forsaken and disowned by God? And that you will not merely be tolerated, but treasured?
3. What would it be like to experience genuine intimacy with God as a beloved, treasured son or daughter?
4. How can this affect my prayers?
5. How does being adopted by God affect my view of God’s sovereignty and providence?
6. How can our adoption by God protect us from
 - the fear of condemnation
 - performance religion
 - having to make a name for myself and prove anything
 - social insecurity
 - the lures of peer pressure

Conclusion/wrap up.