

ADOPTION & SONSHIP

FAMILY AND MINISTRY: LESSONS AT HOME PART IV

*"Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son;
and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. "*

~ Galatians 4:7

1. Lesson You Should Be Learning at Home: Adoption & Sonship

- a. Lessons learned at home will translate outside the home. 1 Tim 3:5
- b. Learn these spiritual principles, and your ministry at home and out will benefit.
- c. Adoption – When someone is chosen, accepted, taken, received into a new relationship
 - i. Not just taking foreign babies as your own, but adulthood, inheritors, successors
- d. Sonship – Being a son, ready to receive inheritance, with full rights & privileges of an heir
 - i. Not merely progeny, but full grown, mature, prepared, finished, complete

2. God's Children Through the Bible

- a. In the Bible, adoption, sonship, inheritance concerns being children of God. (not all are)
- b. Israel – Exo 4:22, Le 26:12, 1Ch 28:6, Hos 1:10, Mt 5:9, Jn 1:12, Rev 21:7, Rom 9:4
- c. The new creature – Rom 8:9,14-17 – (*How'd you receive the Spirit? Gal 3:2-5*)
- d. Galatians 3:5-29 – Abraham (promise), Moses (law), Christ (faith)
 - i. Works and grace (promise) are different – Rom 4:1-5
- e. Things that differ is good, but we must know why, wherefore? Gal 3:19, 24, 2Tim 3:15
- f. God is educating/preparing children to be ready to receive inheritance in Christ – Eph1:10

3. Adoption of Sons

- a. Sons follow the father in their "work" → John 8:39-44, Eph 5:1, Gal 3:6, 3:26
- b. Sons receive the blessings/inheritance of their father → Gal 3:9, 3:29
- c. Heir (promise), as a child (law), as a son (faith) - Galatians 4:1-3
- d. Stuck under the law we were children not sons, but now ... Gal 4:4-5, Eph 4:14
 - i. Law needed for sinners (children) not spiritual (sons) – 1Tim 1:8-11
- e. "*because ye are sons ...the Spirit of his Son*" – Gal 4:6, Rom 8:15. Mark 14:36
- f. We are no longer servants (under law), but sons (motivated by love and grace)
 - i. We are heirs of God through Christ (not through covenants, law, Israel)
 - ii. We have the adoption now, not waiting for it – Eph 1:5-9
- g. Sons are stablished, strengthened, sent out to walk in wisdom without governance
- h. Grace /faith teaches us to walk with wisdom without the law = sonship

4. Sonship at Home

- a. Paul appeals to parents and children in Galatians 4:1-2
 - i. There need be tutors and governance (law) in place for children
 - ii. There need be a preparation for a new relationship – adulthood, sonship
 - iii. There needs be a time appointed when they are no more children
- b. Greater honor comes when they start walking on their own (grace), not before (law)
- c. How do you "disciple"? The same way you raise children into sons – 2 Tim 3:17
- d. Just as adulthood / independence honors parents, walking by faith honors God.