

FAMILY

Scripture: *“Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them”* **Matthew 18:19-20**

For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” **Acts 2:39**

Upon my return from an event in which my family gathered to honor my sister’s ninety-third birthday, I paused to reflect. As a child I thought family meant parents and siblings only. Growing older, I now have learned what extended family is all about. Extended family includes grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, church people, and all kinds of friends we choose to embrace. This past weekend many relatives, from seven different states, came together and for many of the younger relatives, this was their first time meeting. I had the honor of fellowshiping with siblings, their children (my nieces & nephews), grandchildren, and even great grandchildren. Those of us who hadn’t seen each other in years seemed to just pick back up where we left off years ago. The awesome thing is you can just do that with friends and family. Older members took the time to explain to a younger generation what relationships really mean. It reminds me of what Titus said in the second chapter when he stated that the *“older generations must teach the younger generations.”* However, this is exactly how the family of God is suppose to be. No matter how far we go, whether its through moving or others factors in life, we should be able to just “pick up” where we left off with our brothers and sisters of the faith. We should be able to “talk” (prayer) to our shared Father (God) about them, as well as, keep connected by similar ideals, morals, and even familial resemblance since we all are created in the image of God.

Before the weekend was over, my family prayed together, gave praise and thanks to God for the celebration of life, and longed for the day of us reconnecting again. We were grateful to know with certainty that every person in attendance not only belonged to our physical family, but that we all belonged to the best, and most wonderful family of all, the family of God. Don’t let today go by without “talking” to our Father about your “other” siblings. We all need each other. We are a team. We are in this thing together. Besides, whether you like it or not, WE ARE FAMILY!!!!

Prayer: Lord, thank you for my family. Not just my physiscal family, but my spiritual family as well. Please bless my brothers and sisters of the faith and help us to never forsake reconnecting together weekly in YOUR house. Give us blessings on every side. In Jesus Name, Amen!

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