

Who are You? You are God's Family

Jan 13, 2019

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Rom 8:12-17; Jn 17:5,23-26

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THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL Who God is and what He has done	THE PURPOSE OF THE GOSPEL Who we are and what we are to do
We've been saved from the penalty of sin and adopted by the Father into His Family.	As Family , we love God and love one another.

- Believers call God our Father - Abba Daddy. Rom 8:12-17
- We are heirs of God & co-heirs with Jesus! Not orphans!
- Jesus made us Children of God Jn 17:5,23-26
- Jesus is not ashamed to call us brothers Heb 2:11

ORPHAN	CHILD OF GOD
An orphan feels alone. Lacks a vital daily intimacy with God. If focused on self-concern.	Has a growing assurance that "God is really MY loving heavenly Father."
Anxious over felt needs: relationships, money, health. "I'm all alone and nobody cares. I'm not a happy camper."	Trusts the Father and has a growing confidence in His loving care. Is being freed from worry and anxiety.
Feels condemned, guilty, and unworthy before God and others.	Feels loved, forgiven, and totally accepted because Christ's merit really clothes me!
Only uses "God" or "Lord" when praying. Going to God in prayer is a last resort after trying other things.	Calls God "Father" or "Daddy" in prayer. Turns to God in prayer first in times of need. Practices the presence of God the Father.
The Bible's promises of spiritual power and joy seem empty.	God's transforming power and joy are regular experiences.
Rarely spends time with God.	Enjoys spending time with God.
Lacks passion to share the Gospel. The Christian life isn't experienced as good news.	Loves talking about Jesus. The Gospel is experienced as good news here and now!
Seeks satisfaction in physical pleasure.	Satisfied in God's love.
Insecure in relationships. Concerned about being left out or neglected.	Content in relationships. Able to focus on others rather than self. Eph 1:6; Phil 2:3

ORPHAN	CHILD OF GOD
Always feeling like "the sky is falling."	Trusts God will provide for every need.
Has a hard time giving thanks or praising God.	Find numerous reasons to rejoice in God from a good meal to a sunny day.
Is often defensive when sensing criticism. Often goes into protective mode.	Doesn't fear criticism because well-acquainted with both sin and grace. Knows God is protector.

The Church is not:

- a building, just a worship service, a social club

The Church is a Family or a Body:

- Family of God with God as Father. 1 Th 1:1-3; 3:11-13; 2 Cor 1:2-3
- "Household of God" 1 Ti 3:15; 1 Pet 4:17; Heb 3:3-6
- Believers are called "God's Children" Rm 8:16-17; Gal 4:4-6
- Believers are brothers/sister with Jesus Mk 3:31-35; 10:28-31; Mt 23:8-9; Heb 2:11
- We treat one-another as Family:
 Devoted Rm 12:10 Not hindering Rm 14:13 Accepting Rm 14:13
 Instructing Rm 15:14 Caring 1 Cor 12:25 Serving Gal 5:13
 Bearing burden Ga 6:2 Encouraging 1 Th 4:18 Not speak evil Jms 4:11
 Stimulating to good works Heb 10:24 Meeting/encouraging Heb 10:25
 Hospitable 1 Pet 4:9 Loving Rm 13:8; 1 Pet 1:22

ASK: What if we lived as if we believed this?

- How would our church look different?
- How would our testimony to the world be different?
- How can you treat others as family within the church?