



Series: Understanding Who You Are Through the Eyes of God

Lesson 3: “You are God’s Child”

***Announcements, encouragement to invite people and opening prayer.**



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters. **Icebreaker:** If you were an orphan and you could pick anyone living anywhere in the world to adopt you, who would it be?

Transition: Obviously, if an orphan could choose anyone, they would want someone who they knew would love them deeply and provide for them well. They would want to know they would never have to worry about abuse or loneliness. If they could choose, they would pick the greatest possible family they could find.

Bottom Line: You and I were orphans and through Christ, God chose you to accept Him as your Father, the perfect father. You are adopted as God’s child and as His child God designed you to stand strong in Christ truly blessed.

LESSON PLAN

Question – When someone has children of their own and then decides to adopt some more, how does that often play out in the relationships? Is there often jealousy?

Question - Do you think the real children will be excited if the adopted children are named in the will to inherit an equal amount of the entire estate?

Background: Paul visited the Christians in Galatia twice before he wrote this letter. While he was gone some teachers known as the Judaizers came from Palestine and insisted that Gentile believers were not true Christians unless they converted to Judaism and followed all the Law of Moses. Only then could they accept Jesus as Messiah. The Christians in Galatia were in love with Christ and many were just agreeing to whatever they were told Jesus wanted them to do. Paul writes this letter to tell them that what they are hearing and some believing is a false teaching. The work of Christ alone is sufficient for salvation. He is the High Priest for everyone, Jew and Gentile to follow. That is the setting for this letter.

Read Galatians 3:15-18

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1. What example does Paul use from everyday life to address this issue?

If a law is passed, you can’t ignore it or just remove it. It has become law. It’s as if you are caught speeding, doing 85 in a 55. The officer pulls you over and starts to write you a ticket. You tell him he might as well tear it up because you don’t believe in 55. You believe in 85 and you are well within your own law. Who will win that argument? That is Paul’s idea.

Question – What are some of the American laws we try to set aside?

Read Genesis 3:15

2. What does God tell Adam, Eve and the Serpent will take place?

The Hebrew word translated ‘offspring’ in the NIV is translated ‘seed’ in the KJV & the NKJV. The word is ZERA meaning seed or to plant. It can denote a family or offspring. However, in this verse God uses the singular rather than the plural which is significant. That indicates the word refers to one person, Jesus Christ. This was the promise of God of the Messiah who would triumph over evil. Faith in God through Jesus was promised and preached from the fall of man in the Garden to the fulfillment we see in Revelation at the final scene. Every thought of God and man’s relationship was and has always been connected to Christ.)

3. Let’s go back to Galatians. Who is the promise from and who is it to?

Promise was given to Abraham and to his seed, meaning Jesus Christ. The Promise preceded the Law given through Moses to God’s people 430 years after Abraham received the promise. Paul is quoting the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament, which says in Exodus 12:40, “The dwelling of the children of Israel in Egypt and Canaan was 430 years. That would be 430 years from the promise to Abraham to the Exodus and the giving of the Law. That Law was part of God’s fulfillment of the Promise which ended with Christ’s sacrifice for us.



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It’s important that we catch that the promise to bless all the earth comes through Abraham’s seed, the nation who would rise up later as Israel and the Gentiles who would be grafted in to the family of God. Everyone is restored to God, Jew and Gentile or non-Jew through the seed of the woman, Jesus Christ, who restores the family of God. We were all part of God’s miraculous and gracious plan from the first mention of it in the Garden of Eden at the fall of man when there was not a Jewish and a Gentile race on the earth!

Read Galatians 3:19-20

4. What was the purpose of the law if it seemed to set up some special race of people that God seemed to favor?

Question – How could people see God’s hand like the Hebrews did and yet grow apathetic? Does it happen among God’s people in the church today?

Read Galatians 3:21-25

5. Notice how the law of Moses and the promise of God are not opposed to each other but are part of the fulfillment of God’s promise. Could righteousness come through the law?
6. What was God’s purpose in giving Israel all these laws
7. To be justified means to be in a position that it is “Just-as-if-I’d” never sinned. How could that happen?

Question: How do you explain to someone that through faith in Christ God wants to make it like you have never committed a sin?

Read Galatians 3:26-29

8. How do we become Abraham’s seed and a true heir of God’s promise of blessing and life?

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We become an heir by becoming a son of God through faith in Jesus Christ. Through our belief, our repentance, our acceptance of Jesus as Lord, and our baptism into Christ Jesus we are clothed with Christ. In Christ we are not male/female, Jew/Greek, male/female, all distinctions that separate us from being sons of God are removed and we are heirs of the promise and truly Abraham’s seed. Isn’t that fascinating that the promise of God at the fall of man was to build one great family through His seed. That seed would come through faith in God that was first displayed in Abraham.

Question: If Genesis is the account of creation and the first look at God’s only plan for all creation, then how many roads actually lead to God other than Jesus?

Question: Why are we so afraid to share this truth that there is 1 Way, 1 Truth, and 1 Life and it is only found in Jesus the Christ of God and the Promise of Abraham?

Read Galatians 4:1-7

Paul is specifically addressing the non-Jewish Christian crowd in Galatians. That’s you and me. We are like slaves who were adopted into the family. When a son is a minor and too young to receive his inheritance, he might as well be a slave. This was the situation of Paul and his fellow Israelites under the old covenant. For the Gentiles, they were slaves because of the law that did not include the Gentiles.

9. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman and born under law so those under the law could be redeemed. What could that mean?

10. How can we cry out, “Abba, Father?”

Question – Have you every cried out to God in this manner where the Holy Spirit within you is moved with emotion to express something to God as you would your daddy? Do you think we often cry out to God more as a distant supreme being?



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When the Gentiles accepted Christ as Lord, they were adopted as sons. Paul’s imagery of adoption picks up the Old Testament concept of God calling Israel His “son” and combines this with the Roman notion of adopting a son (usually a grown man) in order to designate him as the heir to all the family wealth.

11. What does it mean to you that you were adopted by God to inherit all the family wealth of his Kingdom?

Question – How could you explain the adoption of each human being into the family of God in a way that would help them see the love of God?

Final Question: What is the one idea that stands out to you most from this lesson?