

## Sermon Worksheet - Part 2: One Family

# One

Faith      Body      Family

**We (as God's Church) are called to be unified, to be ONE.**

In Part 1 we talked about "One Faith". There are certain biblical truths that we (as Christians) should believe. (Example: Jesus is God.) Some of these truths are salvation issues and others are non-salvation issues. If you missed last week you can go online to [Reallifeministries.com](http://Reallifeministries.com) and watch the message. Or you can click this link: <http://bit.ly/OnePart1>

The whole concept of "one" is not popular today in the American culture. – "So you're telling me that there is only One God? That I should only be married to One Person? That I should stay connected to One Church?"

This week we are talking about what it means for the Church to be "One Family."

the key verse for this series is from Ephesians 4:

*Ephesians 4:1-6 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

What do you think about as you read this verse? Would you say you feel connected to or "one with" the Church Family?

---

---

# O n e

Faith      Body      Family

There are three truths that are essential for us to believe and live out when it comes to being the “Family of God.”

- **TRUTH #1: GOD ADOPTS US INTO HIS FAMILY—WE DON’T ADOPT HIM INTO OURS.**

- Definition of Adoption: “the action or fact of legally taking another's child and bringing it up as one's own, or the fact of being adopted.”

- *Romans 8:14-15 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”*

- The word Abba means “Daddy” in English. There is an intimate connection that takes place between our spirit and the Spirit of God. God becomes our spiritual Father...

How would you describe your relationship with God. Do you look at him as a Father?

Why or why not?

---

---

- **WE HAVE BEEN “ADOPTED” FROM DEATH:**

*Ephesians 2:1-3 1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. Why does this matter?—So often Christians forget what we have been saved from. But when we realize that we were DEAD in our sin and children of hopelessness, and that through Jesus we have been made alive, that changes everything!*

- **WE HAVE BEEN “ADOPTED” INTO LIFE:**

*Ephesians 2:4-7 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved — 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. John 1:12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. Notice that it says “children,” plural. That means that in the family of God it is not only you*

# One

Faith Body Family

## **TRUTH #2: BEING ADOPTED INTO GOD'S FAMILY MEANS WE HAVE SPIRITUAL BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

- You cannot be in relationship with God and not be in relationship with God's family.
  - *1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.*
- Paul is talking here about what relationships between believers should look like. There are expectations that God has when it comes to how His family should function together.

*Ephesians 4:1-3 1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

Do you have hurt or resentment from relationships that has kept you from being connected with the Church body? What do you believe God would say to you about that?

---

---

## **TRUTH #3: WHEN THE CHURCH ACTS LIKE GOD'S FAMILY, IT CHANGES THE WORLD!**

The greatest gift that the Church has to offer a lost and dying world is the invitation to become a part of God's family.

*2 Corinthians 5:17-20 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.*

## **THREE MARKERS OF THE FAMILY OF GOD:**

- We recognize that we have been adopted into the Family of God. This means that God gets to define what His family should look like.
- We fight FOR relationship with one another. This doesn't mean that we are constantly in conflict! It means that we are actively pursuing restoration in broken relationships.
- We invite those who do not have a spiritual family into the family of God (The Church). This means we are sharing the Good News about Jesus with those that God puts in our path.

## Things to think about:

How does it feel to know you were chosen and adopted by God? What is your response to that?

---

---

Knowing God has adopted you into His family - how connected would you say you are within that family? (the Church)

---

---

If someone was to look at your schedule, how would it indicate that you are connected with a church family? (do you attend services? Are you serving in a ministry? Are you connected to a small group? Make a list below of how many times per week you interact with your church family - whether one on one or in a group setting.)

---

---

What has stood out to you from this sermon? What do you think God wants you to know?

---

---

Is there someone you know that either doesn't have a relationship with God or is not connected to a church family? If so, would you consider inviting them to visit? Either in person or to an online experience?

- Real Life Ministries weekend services are live on Facebook every week at 5:45 on Thursday nights and 9:45 on Sunday mornings. <https://www.facebook.com/RealLifeMinistriesPostFalls/>
- Our Online Campus experience is live every service - check out this link for times and to invite others! <https://reallifeministries.churchonline.org/>

## Resources and Next Steps

- Would you like to watch past sermons? We have sermons from all 3 campus's available here: <http://www.reallifeministries.com/watch-listen>
- Looking for a Life Group to connect with? Click below to get started! <http://www.reallifeministries.com/pfgroups>
- Ready to get connected and start serving? Check out some ministry needs below! <http://www.reallifeministries.com/pfserve>

### Ask Jim:

Jim Putman has a new podcast titled 'Ask Jim' - this is a place where he will answer your questions about Real Life Ministries. Click below to listen to the first episode, "Is a Big Church a Bad Thing?" Feel free to submit any questions you might have and Jim may address them in a future podcast!

<http://www.reallifeministries.com/askjim>

