

Sermon Series Title: "The Church of God"

Sermon Series Summary: The Church of God is the people of God throughout the ages, redeemed by Jesus Christ. We're going to take a look at who we are and who we are called to be as the church of God. More specifically, we see that who we are is directly connected to whose we are in Christ.

"We are in our "The Church of God" sermon series, and we see that we are defined not by who we are but whose we are as the Church."

Call: Revelation 5:13-14

Text: John 1:12-13

Title: "Church as Family"

Next Week's Call: Revelation 15:3

Next Week's Text: Luke 9:28-36

Next Week's Title: "Listen to Him"

Future Calls: Revelation 15:4; Revelation 21:1-4, 5-7, 22-23

Future Titles: "Church as Bride" (Ephesians 5:22-33), "The Eternality of the Church" (Revelation 21:1-7)

Fallen Condition Focus: We don't live as sons and as a family.

Christ redeeming FCF: Christ has made us sons and a family in Him.

Central Truth: "Let us be the family of God in Christ."

Summary: As we've looked at Church as Building, City, and Body, we are looking at Church as Family this week. In our salvation, God is our Father, and we are His sons, making us a spiritual and eternal family. We are called to love one another in this way. We are able to be the family of God, because we are united to Jesus, the Son of God.

Reflective Questions:

1. What are the ways we live as a slave instead of a child of God?
2. Do we see the church as a family? Why or why not?
3. What does it mean for us to treat one another as family members?

- I. Introduction
 - A. Hook
 - B. Transition
 - C. Proposition
 - D. Points
- II. Our Faith (John 1:12-13, Galatians 4:6-7)
 - A. John 1:12-13
 - 1. We received Christ, instead of accepting or earning. He is a gift.
 - a) Faith in His name- totality of being and work
 - 2. We have the right to become children of God by faith.
 - a) Right? Title, inheritance, name, relation
 - 3. Born- no part in our own birthing process
 - a) New DNA- of God
 - B. Galatians 4:6-7
 - 1. We are sons and cry out to God as Abba Father (honoring and intimate)
 - 2. Slave- alone, full of self-concern, anxious, performance-oriented, condemned/guilty before God and others, lots of fear, self-salvation
 - 3. Son- grows in faith that God is a loving Father, trusts Father's hand & heart that ministers to worry/anxiety, trusts not in own performance but in the finished work of Christ, loved/forgiven/accepted in Christ before God (main voice), trusts God's good and sovereign plan
 - C. Sonship- Dad's shirt
- III. Our Family (Ephesians 2:19, Matthew 12:46-50, John 19:26-27)
 - A. OT people of God- family based (Noah- family on ark, Abraham- descendants, Jacob- sons become tribe and nation of Israel, priests- sons of Levi, kings- line of Judah)
 - B. Ephesians 2:19
 - 1. No longer strangers but citizens and members of the household; citizenship- rights and belonging to nation, household- family
 - 2. "God's redeemed people make up a new community, a new eschatological body of Jews and Gentiles, a new family of adopted saints united to the Lord Jesus Christ by grace through faith. This redeemed communion of saints enjoys an unprecedented, divinely created familial dynamic of grace, love, holiness, and unity, by virtue of the exaltation of their Elder Brother Jesus Christ in his resurrection power and glory." -David Garner
 - C. Matthew 12:46-50

1. Priority of spiritual family over biological family
 2. What makes a spiritual family? “Whoever does the will of my Father”
 3. Mentor- Babysitting kids should be on church more than family; New Life- only family they really had
- D. John 19:26-27
1. Jesus still takes care of His mother.
 2. Spiritual family takes on the role of physical family; taking care of one another.
- IV. Our Fellowship (1 Timothy 5:1-2, Romans 12:10, Galatians 6:10, 2 Corinthians 13:11)
- A. 1 Timothy 5:1-2
1. We see one another as family members. Our framework must shift: older men and women- fathers/mothers, younger men/women- brothers/sisters; in all purity.
- B. Romans 12:10
1. Love one another with brotherly affection- family-love
 - a) 5 places in NT to greet one another with holy kiss (family greeting); 2 Thess- all the saints; maybe handshake or a hug or just a smile
 2. Outdo one another in showing honor.
- C. Galatians 6:10
1. Make sure to do good especially for the household of faith. Church family- special place
- D. 2 Corinthians 13:11
1. Rejoice. Aim for restoration. Comfort one another. Agree with one another. Live in peace. God is the God of love and peace.
 2. Dysfunctional family in a dysfunctional world; still family
- V. Our Foundation (Romans 8:29, Hebrews 2:11)
- A. Romans 8:29- Ordo salutis; based on Jesus as our Elder Brother
1. Jesus gave up His right as Son, so we can become children.
 2. Mothers risk their life for children to be born. Jesus gave His life, so we can be born again.
 3. Jesus was abandoned by His family, physical and spiritual... even His Father on the cross, so we can always have a family.
- B. Hebrews 2:11- He was not ashamed of us as His family, by receiving shame Himself.
1. We were enemies and yet Jesus saw us as brothers/sisters. His framework changed to save us.

2. He received humiliation, hatred, injustice; so we can receive love, grace, and forgiveness.
- C. He outdid in showing mercy and honor toward us, by receiving outdone injustice and persecution.
- D. He took on dysfunction, brokenness, division, so we can receive restoration, comfort, and peace.