

“Resurrection Sonship”

Romans 8:12-17

Sermon Series Title: “Resurrection Applied”

Sermon Series Summary: As we gear up for Easter Sunday, we’ll take four weeks looking at the power and beauty of the resurrection of Christ. The resurrection isn’t just for our past or future. The resurrection is here and now in and through us.

Passage Setting: Romans is seen as one of the greatest works of theology. In it, we have the foundations for the gospel, history, and Calvinism. Chapters 1-8 cover the theology of our salvation. Chapters 9-11 cover the history of our salvation. Chapters 12-16 talk about the application of our salvation. Our passage is the victorious end of the theological section in this letter.

Summary: Last week, we talked about our life in the Spirit. Paul starts off this week by talking about our death to sin and our life in sonship. In our sonship, we have adoption, access, and assurance. This leads us to share about the beauty of this truth, secured for us by Christ.

Central Truth: *“Christ died FOR our sin, so we can die TO our sin. He died as an ORPHAN, so we can live as SONS.”*

Sermon Points:

1. Our Sacrifice
2. Our Sonship
3. Our Service
4. Our Savior

Opening Question:

1. Do you know anyone who is adopted or who has adopted a child? What are your thoughts regarding their adoption?

(Answers may vary.)

I think it’s beautiful. A child that was given away is brought into a new family. However, I have seen struggles in adopted kids. They wanted to connect with their biological history and ethnicity. They struggle with their identity with their new family.)

Last week, we talked about Resurrection Life- free from condemnation, life in the Spirit, redemption in the Son. Today, we're going to talk about being adopted as God's family- Resurrection Sonship.

1. What does it look like to die to our sin?

(Answers may vary.)

In the Middle Ages, Christians mortified sin through a system of hours of prayer at set times, separation from the opposite sex, obedience to superiors, and deliberate poverty.

Monks would deny themselves physically, and they would practice spiritual disciplines.

Protestant churches- prayer, disciplines, accountability/community

Heart- We put those things to death, and the Spirit enables us to die.)

2. What does our adoption mean for you?

(Answers may vary.)

We were sons of disobedience and children of wrath. We were children of the devil. We deserved judgment. We were orphans and slaves in our sin. And yet, now we are children of God. We are heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ. We can cry out "Abba Father" with respect and intimacy.)

3. How does our sonship affect our prayer, walk, and assurance? What does that lead us to do?

(Answers may vary.)

Just like a child cries out for his or her parents, we can cry out to God as our Heavenly Father. We can speak to Him intimately with honesty, love, trust, and hope. We trust in His will and sovereignty. We rest that our Father knows what's best and will deliver what's best for us. The Spirit assures us that we are children of God.

Community Group Discussion Questions

We can live in confidence and hope. We can cling to Him as our God and Father. We pray and die to our flesh. We proclaim and bear witness to Christ.)

Final Thoughts: *Jesus died for our sin, so we can die to our sin. Jesus was raised from the dead, to bring our hearts from the dead. Jesus died as an orphan... as a slave, so we can live as sons. Jesus prayed to God as Father throughout the Gospels, even in the Garden of Gethsemane (Abba Father), except for the cross: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" He was forsaken, so we can be forgiven and brought into His family forevermore.*