



LifeGroup Curriculum

"Nothing illustrates the grace of God more than His adoption of us as His children. As Presbyterians, we see this as foundational to our understanding of who we are and how we live. We are God's children. Those who don't know Him are His wayward children. What does this mean for us to be adopted as His children? How do we live into this identity? Join us this week as we engage these questions together."

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY:

Have the whole group seated in circle, explain to the group that they are all going on a picnic together and are all responsible for bringing a food item. Each person is to bring a food that begins with the first letter of their first name. Ask for a volunteer to go first. They are to say their name and what they are bringing to the picnic. The next person, first introduces the person (and the person's food choice) who just went then her/himself and her/his food. The third person to go introduces the first two people and then himself and so on until everyone has gone.

SCRIPTURE READING:

John 1:12

"Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

Romans 8:14

"For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God."

Romans 8:16

"The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God."

Galatians 3:26

"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus."

Galatians 4:6-7

"Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father! Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.'"

2 Corinthians 6:18

"And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me," Says the Lord Almighty."

Romans 9:16

"And it shall be that in the place where it was said to the, 'You are not my people,' There they shall be called sons of the living God."

Luke 6:35

"But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men."

Revelation 21:7

"He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son."

Rooted: Children of God

1 John 3:1-10

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

4 Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6 No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. 8 Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. 9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. 10 By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.”



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Being a “child of God” had a loaded meaning in the ancient world. From your understanding of this phrase, what would it mean if you said someone was the son of God?
2. Jesus and the Scriptures say that He is the Son of God. Read the following: John 11:4; Matt 8:29; Luke 4:41; Mark 3:11; Matthew 27:43; John 19:7; Luke 22:70; Matthew 16:15-17. What are the implications of Jesus being the Son of God?
3. Jesus made claims to be the Son of God and then says that we are the sons of God. What does Jesus mean by this? (Luke 6:35)
4. John’s harsh words in 1 John 3 are difficult to read and challenge our belief in the free grace of God. It almost reads like works-based righteousness. How does the whole works/grace thing work?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Jesus made claims to be the Son of God and then says that we are the sons of God. What does Jesus mean by this? What are the implications for how we are to live our lives?
2. In the book of 1 John, and other verses, sonship to the Lord seems to be tied to how we live as His sons. What does this mean for us as we live in the Kingdom of Heaven present?
3. If fellow believers in Jesus are brothers and sisters as well as sons and daughters of the Most High God, how are we to treat one another?
4. Consider your own children. Elaborate on our place in God’s family, how He feels towards us, what His role is in our lives, and what our role is in the Kingdom.

CLOSING PRAYER ACTIVITY:

Invite someone to close the group in prayer.