

Family Life Tune-Up
How to be a healthy blended family
May 22, 2022
Part 5
Pastor Brian Eberly



All families have their challenges, but living within a blended family has a set of challenges that are unique only to them. Whether you are a divorced and remarried couple without kids, or you are divorced and remarried couple with kids, it's not easy. But God offers a pathway to hope and health.

Divorce and Remarriage

1. You are _____ just the same.

Romans 8:38-39 "And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. ³⁹ No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord." (NLT = New Living Translation)

Psalms 103:11 "For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth." (NLT)

2. You are _____ just the same.

Psalms 103:12-13 "He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him." (NLT)

3. You are _____ just the same.

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." (NLT)

Galatians 3:26-29 "For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you." (NLT)

Divorce and Remarriage with Children

1. Love your children the _____ that Christ loves you.

Ephesians 5:2 “Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.” (NLT)

1 John 3:16 “We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters.” (NLT)

- Be willing to sacrifice your _____ for their _____.

2. Forgive your children in the _____ that Christ forgives you.

Colossians 3:13 “Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” (NLT)

- Give you children _____ to be who they are.

Ephesians 6:4 “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.” (NLT)

3. Value your children in the _____ Christ values you.

2 Corinthians 5:17 “... Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!” (NLT)

- Make sure you are fully and completely _____ to your children.

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Romans 8:38-39 and Psalm 103:11. What does God have to say to us when we feel unloved because of our past mistakes?
2. When you consider God’s forgiveness toward you, how does this effect the way you live your life, and relate to your spouse and children?
3. Your divorce and remarriage are part of your story. Discuss how God can use it to bless and encourage others.
4. Read Ephesians 1:5 and John 1:12. Discuss the similarity between God adopting us as sons and daughters, and accepting children into your blended family.
5. Discuss the idea of sacrificing your feelings for the security of your children. Why is this important?
6. How can you value the children in your blended the family the same way Christ values you?