

What We Really Need The Spirit of Adoption

In Jesus we are children of God (Romans 8:12-14). As much as the world tells us that we need to grow up, be independent, and to strive for the things we have, God calls us to be His children, to live in childlike dependence on Him and to receive freely from Him. All who are in Christ have not received a spirit of slavery, but a spirit of adoption. *Adulting* is hard because we were never meant to adult, at least in the way we're trying to do it. We are meant to know who our Father is and live in the freedom that comes from being His child.

GETTING STARTED

What from Lance, Kallie and River's video resonated with you? In what ways has your life been impacted by adoption? Have you, any of your family, or any of your friends adopted or been adopted? What impact or affect does adoption have on the lives of everyone involved in the process?

GO DEEPER

1. From Romans 8:12-14, what does it mean to be a child of God? Why do you think we minimize the truth and significance that in Jesus we are God's sons or daughters?
2. Romans 8:15-17 speaks to the difference between being a child of God and being a spiritual slave. How does a spiritual slave live and think? In contrast, how does a son or daughter of God live and think?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. According to Matthew 7:9-11, God loves to bless and be generous to His children. How easy or hard is it for you see God as a Good Father who loves you and wants to bless you? How has your relationship with your parents affected your view of God as a good, loving Father?
2. Are you living as a spiritual slave or a spiritual son or daughter, and what gives you that sense of confidence? What aspects of your life are still driven by a performance or slave mentality (e.g. doing in order to have and to be)? In what ways is God releasing you from those old ways of thinking and bringing you into sonship?
3. Romans 8:17 says that we are co-heirs or fellow heirs with Christ. Knowing that you are an heir with Christ, how does that shift your perspective of who you really are and how God truly sees you?

PRACTICE IT NOW

Take some time as a group to ask the Lord to continue to reveal His heart as a Good Father. Thank Him for the freedom that exists as we take our rightful place as His child. Ask Him to continue to remind you that He has carried the burden, so that you may live in peace.

BLESS

Who is someone that you can share your story with about how our Heavenly Father adopted you into His Kingdom family?