

## THE FAMILY OF GOD

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### POINT #1 - HOW I VIEW MYSELF

(READ:) *“And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. - Galatians 4:6-7 NLT*

At the very beginning of the Bible we learn that God and Jesus created the world and people. We learn that God and Jesus wanted to create people to look and be like them. In Genesis chapter 1 verse 27 it says, *“Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground. So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”*

What do you think it means that we are created in the IMAGE of God? (Allow your child to answer) The word IMAGE means someone who looks like someone else. It’s like looking in the mirror. When we look in the mirror we see what we look like, but we also see what God looks like. Because we are created in the image of God, we are seeing Him when we look at ourselves and at each other.

The Bible also tells us that Jesus is the Son of God, and Jesus died for us and our sins so that we could be forgiven of our sins and could become children of God. When we believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that He died for us and rose again, and when we ask Jesus to come live in our hearts, to be our Lord and Savior, we come into the Family of God. We become children of God, just like Jesus. It is so important that we know that we belong to God and that we are His sons and daughters here on the earth.

### Discussion Questions

- 1) Has anyone ever told you that you look like your Mom or your Dad? How do you look like them?
- 2) Has anyone ever told you that you act like your Dad or your Mom? How do you act like them?
- 3) Have you ever thought about what God the Father and Jesus look like? Have you ever had a dream or a vision or an encounter with them to see them? Explain.

### Scripture Memory Verse

*“Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.” - Galatians 4:7 (NLT)*

***Prayer: God, thank you for creating us. Thank you for creating us in YOUR image. Thank you for being such a good Daddy to your children. We are so blessed that we get to be your children. Holy Spirit, help us to know what it means to be a child of God, to be a son and/or a daughter of the Most High, One, True, Living God. Help us to see you inside of us. Help us to continue discovering who we are, more and more, each and every day. We love you so much, and we pray all of this in the name of Jesus. Amen.***

### Application/Activity

- Have your child make a list of all the things they like about themselves. Talk with them about those qualities and how our good qualities come from God!

## Worship Song

"Who You Say I Am"

[https://youtu.be/lcC1Bp13n\\_4](https://youtu.be/lcC1Bp13n_4)

## **POINT #2 - HOW I VIEW OTHERS**

In point #1 we talked about how we are sons and daughters of God, we are His children. So, if we are ALL His children, then that makes us all brothers and sisters. Have you ever thought about that? (Allow your child to answer) In 1 Peter chapter 3 verse 8, the Bible says, *"Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude."* - 1 Peter 3:8 (NLT)

Jesus wants us to love each other as brothers and sisters. If we are going to love someone the same way we love our family, we first have to "see" them that way. Who are our brothers and sisters in the Family of God? (Allow your child to answer) Our whole family, our brothers and sisters and our Dad and Mom, our cousins, our aunts and uncles, and even our grandparents are all our brothers and sisters in Christ, when they believe in Jesus. Our friends that believe in Jesus are our brothers and sisters too! Everyone that comes to church that knows Jesus and believes in Him, they are also our brothers and sisters. We have A LOT of brothers and sisters in our Family of God. Everyone in our town, our state, our nation and all across the whole world that believe in Jesus are our brothers and sisters. We are a part of a very big family. We have brothers and sisters in the family of God that we don't even know!

Not only does God want us to know that we are a part of this family, but He wants us to love each other as brothers and sisters. We love them like they belong to us. We should love them just the same. We should care about them just as much. Jesus wants us to take good care of each other here on earth. He wants us to see each other exactly like He sees us.

## Discussion Questions

- 1) Have you or do you see your extended family and friends as your brothers and sisters? How?
- 2) Do you treat your extended family and friends differently than you do your brothers and sisters and parents? How so?
- 3) Have you ever thought about there being people in your family, the family of God, that you don't even know? And about how big the family of God is? Share your thoughts.
- 4) Has this lesson helped you think about how you see others differently? Share your thoughts.

## Scripture Memory Verse

*"Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude."* - 1 Peter 3:8 (NLT)

***Prayer: Jesus, we are so thankful that we get to be in your family. Thank you for showing us that we have many, many, many family members, brothers and sisters all over the world. Help us to see each other that way, as our brothers and sisters. Help us to see others the way that you see them. Holy Spirit, help us to love each other that way as well. So us how we can do a better job of seeing others and loving others like you do. We want to see with your eyes and we want to feel your heart for others. Help us to value our brothers and sisters in Christ just as you do. We want to do our very best to love***

***each other in the best way possible. Just like you do. We pray all of this in your holy name, Jesus. Amen.***

Application/Activity

- Coloring page: [https://sermons4kids.com/family\\_of\\_god\\_colorpg.htm](https://sermons4kids.com/family_of_god_colorpg.htm)

Worship Song

“Good Good Father”

<https://youtu.be/BH0y2HfZpy0>

**POINT #3 - VALUES OF A HEALTHY FAMILY**

(READ:) *“He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.” - Ephesians 4:16 NLT*

God says that all of us brothers and sisters in the family of God are also called the BODY of Christ. He says that each one of us in the body are important and that we fit together perfectly. Each of us have special important work to do, that’s why we are all so different from each other. But, together, we are complete and whole. Just like in our own body, we need all the parts working together and correctly so we can do what we need to do and enjoy life. It’s the same with the body of Christ, we need every part, every person, in the body using their special gifts and talents. We can only do this if we are healthy. Jesus wants us to be healthy and growing and full of love.

What does it mean to be healthy? (Allow your child to answer: being well, having good health, not sick) There are 3 values that help make a healthy family or body of Christ: community, unity, safety. When we have community, it means we provide a place for people to belong. Everyone feels like they belong and they do not feel rejected or like they don’t belong. Unity means that we provide togetherness, that other people know we are with them and for them. We don’t have to agree with each other about everything, but we love each other and we will not turn away from each other just because we don’t agree on something. The last thing is safety, when we provide protection for each other. Everyone wants to feel safe and know that they are safe when they are with us.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Have you ever felt like you didn’t belong? Maybe with friends or groups at school? Explain. Did you like that feeling?
- 2) Do you feel like you do belong to something or some group? Explain. How do you feel like you belong?
- 3) Have you disagreed with someone but even though you disagree with them, you still love them and want to be with them? Explain. Have you ever disagreed with someone and maybe you or they didn’t want to be with each other? Explain.
- 4) Do you like to feel safe? Explain. Have you ever felt that you weren’t safe? Explain.

Scripture Memory Verse

*“He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.” - Ephesians 4:16 NLT*

***Prayer: Jesus, we are so thankful that we get to be in your family and that we get to be a part of the body of Christ. Holy Spirit, we ask you to help us know what our special gifts and talents are and how we are supposed to use them for the body of Christ. Help us to remember that we do belong to something much bigger than we even know, that we are united and together in you Jesus, and that we are safe in your presence. Help us to make our brothers and sisters feel like they belong, that we are united together with them, and that they are safe with us. We want the body of Jesus to be strong, full-functioning, growing and healthy. We pray all of this in the name of Jesus. Amen.***

Application/Activity

- Coloring puzzle page:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ip6A2p7Walb1Ds548J1RNWQh2XPqmuem/view?usp=sharing>

Worship Song

"Build My Life"

<https://youtu.be/NLhdzuCSmlw>