

Sunday, November 22, 2015
Family Portraits
Matthew 13:34-14:18
Pastor Josh McClintock

Adoption is an outpouring of _____ and _____ on an individual in-order to _____ them into a family they weren't born into.

Because of Jesus I am an adopted child and...

I have a _____ . (Jn. 14:6)

I have a _____ . (Jn. 14:2-3:18, 23)

I have _____ power. (Jn. 14:16-17)

I have the ability to _____ . (Jn. 13:34:14:12)

As a _____ child, I am to _____ my _____ .
(Eph. 5:1)

Discussion questions:

1. Discuss the various roadblocks and sins that hinder Christians from viewing God as a good Father that can be fully trusted. Or, in other words, How has your background created difficulty in you thinking of God and relating to Him as a Father? (You may want to look up Matt. 7:11 and Heb. 12:10 to help contrast earthy fathers to our Heavenly Father).
2. We looked at just a few privileges we have as (spiritually) adopted children (We have a heavenly Father, a forever home, Holy Spirit power and the ability to sacrificially love others). What are some other privileges we have as "children of God". (Consider: Romans 8:14-16, Galatians 4:4-7, Hebrews 4:16, 1 John 3:1-2). How should these truths affect the way we live everyday life?
3. We defined adoption as an outpouring of grace and love on an individual in-order to include them into a family they weren't born into. God did just that for us through Jesus. Now as His children, we are to imitate Him (Eph 5:1). Who has God placed in your circle of influence that you can adopt into your "family portrait" and shower with grace and love in order to point them to our heavenly Father? What name did you write down on the insert from Sunday? Brainstorm various ways to sacrificially love those people and spend time praying for them by name.
4. Has God been stirring in you a desire to possibly pursue adopting or fostering? If so, commit as a group to pray for that couple/family everyday until God makes clear His will for their decision.