Kingdom Identity Series Part 3: **It’s All In The Family**

Introduction: During the last two messages I shared that those of us who are Born Again Believers are Ambassadors of the Kingdom of God. So, this means that we have been given the privilege and authority to share with the world God’s Plan for Citizenship into the Kingdom of God. We also learned a couple of weeks ago that we are both Kings and Priests. So, this means that we have been given the power to both enforce God’s will on earth and to pray for and help supply the needs of those we know who are not yet Born Again. Therefore, thus far we have learned three different aspects of our Identity as Kingdom citizens. Tonight, we are going to investigate another part of Identity.

**Focus Phrase: It’s All In The Family**

*Hebrews 2:11-18 NLT*

***So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.*** *[12] For he said to God, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters. I will praise you among your assembled people.” [13] He also said, “I will put my trust in him,” that is, “I and the children God has given me.” [14] Because God’s children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. [15] Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying. [16] We also know that the Son did not come to help angels; he came to help the descendants of Abraham. [17]* ***Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people.*** *[18] Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested.*

**Purpose Statement: God wanted more than official servants, He wanted a family to love.**

**Point One: We are Accepted By Him**

*Ephesians 1:3-5 NLT*

*All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. [4] Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. [5] God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.*

Acceptance is one of four emotional needs that mankind has.

Illustration: Peer pressure and rejection feed on the need for acceptance. (i.e. Mr. Irrelevant-the first person to officially be given the "**Mr**. **Irrelevant**" title was Kelvin Kirk, **pick** number 487 of the 1976 draft.-NFL Draft example, he could have been tempted to feel sorry for himself, even though he was the 487th chosen out of a pool of tens of thousands of young men who played college football. Remember Peter when he was among the Jews after feasting with the gentiles)

When we accept the reality that the God of the Universe has accepted us into his family, we can experience freedom from people bondage.

**Point Two: The Father Has Given Us Gifts As His Children**

*Matthew 7:9-11 NLT*

*“You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? [10] Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! [11] So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.*

*James 1:17-18 NLT*

*Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. [18] He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.*

Being in the family gives us access to things that mere servants don’t have…

Illustration: The Difference Between a Servant and a Son

*Romans 8:15-17 NASB*

*For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” [16] The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, [17] and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

**Point Three: We find Safety and Purpose In Relationship with Our Father**

Two other emotional needs that we as mankind have are Security and Purpose and realizing our Identity as children of God will satisfy these needs like nothing or no else can.

*Romans 8:29-39 NLT*

*For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. [30] And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory. [31] What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? [32] Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won’t he also give us everything else? [33] Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. [34] Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God’s right hand, pleading for us. [35] Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? [36] (As the Scriptures say, “For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.” ) [37] No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. [38] 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.*

**Conclusion:** God wanted more than official servants, He wanted a family to love and through the finished work of Jesus our Elder Brother, Our Kinsman Redeemer has made relationship with God possible.

**Points Summary: We Are Accepted By Him, He Has Given Us Gifts As His Children, and We find Safety and Purpose In Relationship with Our Father**

**Call To Action: Commit To Reminding Yourself of Your Status As Children of God**