

(Memory Verse: Galatians 5:13)

YOUR FAMILY RESEMBLANCE!

(Galatians 3:6-9)

I. YOUR PHYSICAL FAMILY IS IN ADAM BY ANCESTRY!

- A. Our biological family gives us physical life as a human being!
 - 1. "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel" (Gen. 3:15).
 - 2. Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned (Romans 5:12).
- B. Our identity is confused in the fallen sinful human race!
 - 1. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive (1 Corinthians 15:22).
 - 2. So also it is written, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL." The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual. The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven (1 Corinthians 15:45–47).
 - 3. "Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance; and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father'; for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham" (Matthew 3:8, 9).

II. YOUR SPIRITUAL FAMILY IS IN CHRIST BY FAITH!

- A. Our adopted family is embraced by faith as a spiritual being!
 - 1. Even so Abraham Believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness. Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham (Galatians 3:6, 7).
 - 2. 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!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God (Romans 8:15, 16).
- B. Our identity is restored in righteousness in the family of God!
 - 1. The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, *saying*, "ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE BLESSED IN YOU." So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer (Galatians 3:8, 9).
 - 2. Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to seeds," as *referring* to many, but *rather* to one, "And to your seed," that is, Christ (Galatians 3:16).

LIFE GROUP FLOW AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

"YOUR FAMILY RESEMBLANCE"

An important Guideline of Life Groups: Your Life Group can inspire spiritual resemblance to Christ in one another! Discuss how you can exhibit the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22, 23) more in reflecting Christ to others.

Getting Started:

- 1. What are some physical characteristics that stand out in your family of origin?
- 2. What are some spiritual characteristics that should be displayed in Christians?

Discussing Truths:

- 1. With all three monotheistic religions (Christianity, Judaism and Islam) appealing to Abraham as a key figure, what is Paul declaring that is unique to true faith (Galatians 3:6-9; 3:16)?
- 2. How is one's spiritual rebirth (John 3:3-7) the same depiction as one's spiritual adoption into God's family (Galatians 4:4-7)?
- 3. What stands out to you about Abraham's faith journey as remarkable and exemplary in Hebrews 11:8-19?
- 4. What wrong thinking has caused you confusion in your own identity?
- 5. Does the reality of being grafted in to God's family vine erupt in humble, thankful praise and service motivated by love (Romans 11:17-24)?
- 6. Have you ever operated in fear with a spirit of slavery to perform instead of operating in a spirit of adoption as a child of God (Romans 8:15, 16)?
- 7. How does Peter contrast our spiritual redemption being not from human legacy, but through the precious blood of Jesus (1 Peter 3:17-21)?

Now What? Application:

- 1. How are you becoming more like Christ in your spiritual disciplines (Romans 8:29)?
- 2. Will you continue to pursue DEEPER PRAYER as a daily practice? What will that kind of consistency do to make you reflect Christ's character (2 Corinthians 3:18)?