

What On Earth Am I Here For? You Were Formed for God's Family

Brad McConnaughey // May 3, 2020

"For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible...everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him."
Colossians 1:16

Big Idea: You were formed for God's Family

"His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ." **Ephesians 1:5**

1. _____ To _____ To God's Family

"In Christ we who are many form one Body, and each member belongs to all the others." **Romans 12:5**

2. _____ To _____ With God's Family

"All the believers met together constantly and shared everything with each other."
Acts 2:44

"Share each other's troubles and problems." **Galatians 6:2**

3. _____ To _____ _____ In God's Family

"The whole Body is fitted 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**

"Now you are the body of Christ and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it." **1 Corinthians 12:27**

4. _____ To _____ Other Believers As Family

*"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love." **Romans 12:10***

*"**Your strong love for each other will prove to the world that you are My disciples.**" **John 13:35***

*"You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus." **Galatians 3:26***

21 minutes with God for 21 days challenge reading schedule:

- Romans 12
- 1 Corinthians 12
- 1 Corinthians 13
- 1 Peter 4
- Ephesians 4
- Acts 2
- 1 John 3

Sermon questions

1. The world likes to think that everyone is a child of God and all religions lead to God. Do you agree or disagree? How do **Galatians 3:26** and **John 14:6** apply to that kind of thinking?

2. In The Message, **Ephesians 1:5** says, "Long, long ago He decided to adopt us into His family through Jesus Christ." Why is it significant to you that you were adopted by God through Christ?

If you were to adopt a child into your family, would you use the same criteria as God when He adopted you? Explain.

3. Which of the following terms best describe you as a member of God's family here at ACC?
- Free agent
 - Independent contractor
 - Associate
 - Employee
 - Family member
 - Other _____

Explain your answer.

4. Read **Acts 2:42-47** and **Galatians 6:2**. Church is not a place you go to, but a family you participate in. How did the early believers *participate* in church?

What was essential for them to participate?

What opportunities are available to you here at ACC for this kind of sharing together?

5. Read **Ephesians 4:16** and **1 Corinthians 12:27**. God did not bring you to ACC to sit and soak in a spiritual spa, but to serve. How does God want you to serve at ACC, in your neighborhood, and at your workplace?

6. Read **1 John 3:10** and **John 13:35**. Explain in your own words what **1 John 3:10** means in practical everyday activities.

Why does Jesus say in **John 13:35** that it is important to prove to unbelievers that you are a Christian?

7. Consider these levels of being part of the family of God:
- Choosing to belong – Have I trusted Christ? Have I been baptized? Am I a member of ACC?
 - Choosing to share in – Do I participate in worship? Am I in a Life Group? Do I share life with others?
 - Choosing to do my part – Where is your niche for serving? What is your responsibility here? What's your contribution?
 - Choosing to love other believers like a family – Are there others here at church who know you'll be there for them in their crisis?

Where would you put yourself in these levels of involvement? What must you do to go to the next level?

Read the Bible this year

Pastor Brad encouraged us to read the Bible in 2020. Here's some help getting started. Each day this week read from the Old and New Testament. Or, if you prefer, read just from one testament. Enjoy!

- **1 Kings 8-9**
- **1 Kings 10-11; Luke 21**
- **1 Kings 12-13**
- **1 Kings 14-15; Luke 22**
- **1 Kings 16-18**
- **1 Kings 19-20; Luke 23**
- **1 Kings 21-22**
- **2 Kings 1-3**