

Study Guide 1-4-26 All In The Family - In God's Family

Overview

This sermon, titled "All in the Family," launches a series exploring what it means to belong to God's family. It focuses on why God desires us in His family: rooted in the eternal love within the Trinity. The Father loved the Son so deeply that creation—including humanity—emerged so God could have more sons and daughters to love. Jesus, the Creator, delights in sharing His Father and Kingdom with us. Entry into God's family comes solely through believing in and accepting Jesus, becoming children of God—not based on personal merit, but on God's unconditional love and vision for our potential.

Reflection Questions

1. How does understanding the Trinity's eternal love change your view of why you were created?
2. What labels or cultural identifiers (e.g., political, racial, socioeconomic) do you tend to place before "child of God"?
3. Before coming to Jesus, what was your attitude toward God? How does Romans 5:8 challenge your understanding of His love?
4. Do you struggle to see yourself as God's "masterpiece" (Ephesians 2:10)? Why or why not?
5. Why do you think God loves you? How comfortable are you receiving His unconditional love without earning it?

Main Points

1. **God's Motivation for Creation and Family**
 - o God exists as Trinity (Father, Son, Spirit) in perfect love.
 - o The Father wanted more sons and daughters to love; Jesus created the world to fulfill that desire.
 - o Jesus delights in sharing His Father and inheritance with us (John 1:1-12).
2. **Entry into God's Family**
 - o Only through believing in and accepting Jesus (John 1:12; John 14:6).
 - o The goal is relationship as children of God, not just heaven.
3. **What God's Desire for You Is NOT About**
 - o **Not your attributes:** Cultural, racial, political, or personal identifiers must yield to identity as God's child (Galatians 3:26-29).
 - o **Not your attitude:** We were hostile to God, yet He loved and died for us while we were sinners (Romans 5:8; Romans 8:7).
4. **What God's Desire for You IS About**
 - o **Your aptitude (potential):** God sees who you can become in Christ and believes in you (Ephesians 2:10; Romans 8:29-30).
 - o **His unconditional love:** He loves you simply because you're worth it to Him (1 John 3:1; John 3:16).

Application

- Examine and release any identity labels that you elevate above being a child of God. Ask God to reveal where culture conflicts with His Kingdom values.
- Receive God's love daily, even (especially) when your attitude or performance falls short—remind yourself of Romans 5:8.
- Shift your self-view to align with how God sees you: as His beloved masterpiece with divine potential. Speak Ephesians 2:10 over your life.

- If you haven't already, respond to God's invitation by confessing Jesus as Lord and believing in His resurrection (Romans 10:9).
- Share this love: Look for opportunities to help others glimpse their potential in Christ.

Group Discussion Prompts

1. Share one cultural or personal label you've struggled to place secondary to "child of God." How has it affected your faith?
2. The sermon says Jesus delights in sharing His Father with us. How does that make you feel about your place in God's family?
3. Which of the four points hit home most (attributes, attitude, aptitude, love)? Why?
4. How does knowing God loved you "while we were still sinners" (Romans 5:8) change the way you relate to Him on bad days?
5. If someone asked you today, "Why does God love me?"—what would you say based on this message?
6. Pray together: Invite group members to receive God's unconditional love and vision for their lives.