

God's Family (Song 643)

Ephesians 2:11-19

Different Roles

- God is the Father. **Galatians 1:1-4**
- We are children. **Galatians 3:26-27**
- We are brethren. **Galatians 6:1**

Different Stages Of Growth

- Babies. **1 Timothy 3:6; 1 Peter 2:2; Ephesians 4:14; 1 Corinthians 16:13; Hebrews 5:12ff; 2 Peter 3:18**
- In some ways we ARE to behave like children. **Matthew 18:1-6; Luke 14:8-11; Romans 12:3; 1 Corinthians 14:20; 1 Peter 2:1**

Different Stages Of Growth

- Some old enough to know better.
 - King Saul. **1 Samuel 15**
 - Apostle Peter. **Acts 2:21; 10:34-35; 11:12; 15:7f; Galatians 2:11-12**
- Some are weak. **Romans 15:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:14**

Common Characteristics

- Love each other. **1 John 4:19-21; John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13**

Common Characteristics

- Care for each other.
 - 1 Corinthians 12:25-27; Philippians 2:2ff, 20; Romans 12:9-19**
 - Physical needs. **Acts 2:44-45; 4:32ff**
 - Beginning the life of a Christian. **Matthew 28:19-20**
 - Burdens of life. **Job 1:22; 1 Kings 19:13-18**

Common Characteristics

- Care for each other.
 - Responsibility.
 - Elders. **Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2; Hebrews 13:17**
 - Preachers. **Ephesians 6:19-20**
 - Sin. **Galatians 6:1**

Common Characteristics

- Desire companionship.
 - Worship. **Hebrews 10:24-25**
 - Kindness, Friendly. **Romans 12:10**
cf. **Hebrews 13:1ff**
 - Encouragement. **1 Corinthians 15:33**
- Common aims.
 - Please the Father. **Philippians 3:13-15**
 - Hope of heaven. **2 Timothy 4:6-8**

Problems

- Examine self. **Luke 17:3; Acts 20:28; 2 Corinthians 13:5; 1 Timothy 4:16**
- Pray. **James 5:16-17**
- Don't gossip. **James 3:5-6**
- Work to restore. **Galatians 6:1; Matthew 5:23; Matthew 18:15**

Results ... James 5:19-20

Blessings Of Family Life

- Heirs
Romans 8:14-17 *“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For ye received not the spirit of bondage again unto fear; but ye received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God; and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with (him), that we may be also glorified with (him).”*

- **If you are not in the family of God, you cannot enjoy the blessings of family life!**

Galatians 3:26-29 *“For ye are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ. There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither bond nor free, there can be no male and female; for ye all are one (man) in Christ Jesus. And if ye are Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise.”*