

The Righteousness of God

I Call Him Father

Romans 8:14-17 (ESV)

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Adoption and the Gospel:

1. _____ is "born a Christian". We are not _____ children of God. We are His supernatural children, if ...

"What is a Christian? The question can be answered in many ways, but the richest answer I know is that a Christian is one who has God as Father."

- J.I. Packer, Knowing God

John 1:12-13 (ESV)

¹²... to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

2. Our status as God's children is all of _____. It is not earned or negotiated. It is _____.
All the cost belongs to the Father.

Galatians 4:4-7 (ESV)

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

3. God adopted us because He _____ us!
There is no other explanation.

1 John 3:1a (ESV)

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God, and so we are.

Adoption and my new life as God's child:

I have life-giving, life-changing _____ to be the new person God says I am. (v. 13-14)

I have _____. My salvation is not based on my performance, but the performance of Christ. (v. 15)

I have _____ with my Father. I know him and He knows me. (v. 15)

I have an _____ who empowers me, encourages me, assures me, and intercedes for me! (v. 16)

I have an _____ that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for me. (v. 17, 1 Peter 1:4)

I have a _____. Living as a child of the King makes me – and my values, pursuits, and choices – distinct from this world's. this will put me at odds with people, systems, and culture. Living as God's child may be costly to me in the short run, but ...

_____!

"... provided we **suffer with him** in order that we may also be **glorified with him**."

- *Romans 8:17b*