

Purpose 2

**Focusses around
God's Family**

Section 15-21
(Pages 117-171)

Purpose 2

**You were
formed for
God's Family**

“I am the vine, and you are the branches.”

Jn. 15:5

“Christ makes us one body...connected to one another.”

Rom. 12:5

Section 15

Formed for God's Family



Section 15
(Pages 117-122)





God wants a family, and He created you to be a part of it. This is God's second purpose for your life.

God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

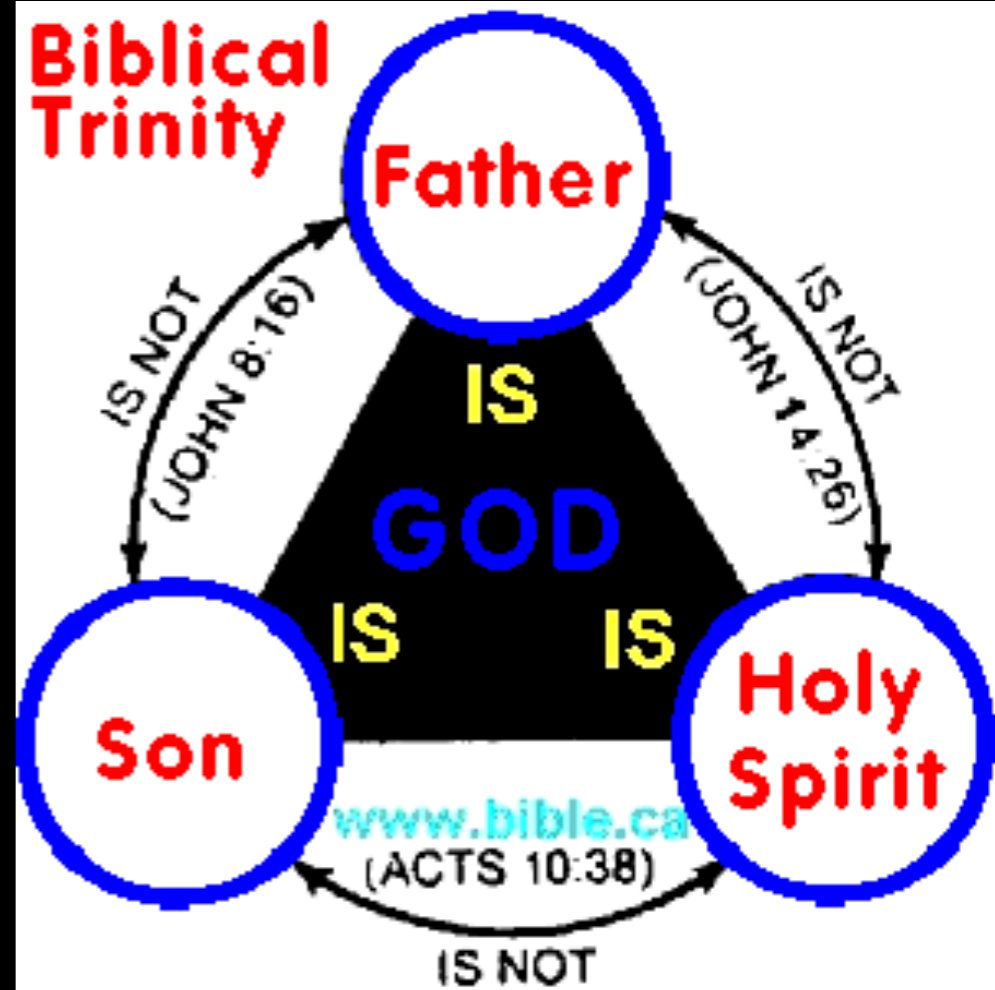
Ephesians 1:5 NLT

The trinity - Father, Son, Holy Spirit - is relational in nature, a pattern for harmonious relationships.

God did not need a family - but, he did desire one;

He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

James 1:18 NLT



Even though all people were created by God, not every person is a child of God.

At salvation we put our faith in Jesus - Gal 3:26, *You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus* - then God becomes our Father, we become His children, other believers become our brothers and sisters, and the church becomes our spiritual family.

The family of God includes all believers in the past, the present, and the future.

Other family ties on earth will break - the family tie with the family of God will last forever.

Mark Driscoll (Mars Hill Church) makes this point powerfully. Watch this:

[http://
www.youtube.com/
watch?v=ne9Dzfh3Ej0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ne9Dzfh3Ej0)



Benefits

When in God's family you get:

The name, the likeness, privileges,
intimate access, family inheritance

***So you are no longer a slave, but
a son; and since you are a son,
God has made you also an heir.***

Galatians 4:7

Eph 1:18



I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

So what is the inheritance we get?

- With God forever
- Completely changed to be like Christ
- Freed from all pain death and suffering
- Rewarded and reassigned positions of service
- We share in Christ's glory





***...and we have a
priceless
inheritance—an
inheritance that is
kept in heaven for
you, pure and
undefiled, beyond
the reach of
change and decay.***

I Peter 1:4



RETIREMENT LANE

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Col 3:23-24

Baptism: Identifying



Baptism: Identifying



Families are usually proud of being part of one another.

Baptism does this for us - it is not an option - it says, “I am part of God’s family”

In Matt 28:18-20 God gives three vital parts of being a Christian;

Evangelism, edification - and identification as part of God’s family (baptism)



Baptism declares your faith, shares Christ's burial, and resurrection, symbolises the death of your old life, announces your new life in Christ, is a celebration of your inclusion in God's family.



Baptism does not make you a Christian - it declares that you are one - like a wedding ring declares you are married

In the NT they are no delayed baptisms - they happen immediately e.g. Pentecost, Ethiopian, Philippian jailer...



Life's Greatest Privilege

**What is the
greatest thing
that could happen
in your life?**

Life's Greatest Privilege

So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.

Hebrew 2:11

Amazingly you are part of God's family -
and because Jesus makes you holy, God is
proud of you;

*49 Then he pointed to his disciples and said,
“Look, these are my mother and brothers. 50
Anyone who does the will of my Father in
heaven is my brother and sister and mother!”*

Matthew 12:49-50

Being included in God's family is the highest privilege you can ever imagine or receive.

Whenever you feel unimportant, unloved or insecure, remember who you belong to!



Bharat Ratna
India in
highest
highest
includes
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The award
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Bharat Ratna, (Jewel of India or Gem of India in English) is the Republic of India's highest civilian award, awarded for the highest degrees of national service - includes artistic, literary, and scientific achievements, as well as "recognition of public service of the highest order."

The award was established by the first President of India, Rajendra Prasad, on 2 January 1954.

Point to Ponder:

I was formed for God's family

Verse to Remember:

...he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will

Question to consider:

Does my level of involvement in my local church demonstrate that I love and am committed to God's Family?