

## Adoption – The Best Way To Know God’s Love

**Mission:** Sharing the Love of God Beyond Sunday.

*For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. – Romans 8:14-17*

**Big Idea:** We know God’s love because He adopts us as sons and daughters.

### Adoption is Full Legal Sonship and Daughtership

*The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. -- Romans 8:15*

The Greek word for *adoption to sonship* is a term referring to the full legal standing of an adopted male heir in Roman culture;

As a child of God, you are in the family line to be responsible for the sustaining of the universe! That may sound like too much.

### The Adoption Process Requires Great Sacrifice

-Parental Process -- background check, home inspection, money... → all on the parent. The parent gets “judged.”

## Adoption Problems – Struggles with Criticism and Worth

*For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. – Romans 8:3*

We often have trouble believing we still have worth and are loved, when we are criticized.

### The Key to Love is Always Sacrifice

As lawbreakers, the penalty for us is death. But Jesus paid the price in our place. Jesus gave His life in place of our life.

### Successful Adoption – Learning to See God as Father

*And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” – Romans 8:15b*

It feels risky to trust anyone with the role of Father, especially someone other than your own father, and we ARE talking about adoption.

### Conclusion:

- Adoption (and parenting) requires from you a willingness to be unconditionally loved and to be challenged in your personal growth.
- Having affection for a father and mother comes from recognizing the sacrifices made for you over a lifetime.
- God has made the ultimate sacrifice to adopt you. He loves completely and hopes to restore you an unimaginable glory.