



October 15th Sermon Questions

God as Our Father

Galatians 3:23-4:7

Icebreaker: Who is your favorite movie/book dad and why?

Discussion Questions: Read Galatians 3:23-4:7

1. When you think of God as "Heavenly Father," what comes to mind?
2. What was your relationship with your earthly father like? How do you think that has influenced (positively or negatively) your conception of who God is and what he is like?
3. In verses 3:23-24, the Apostle Paul explains that the Law is useful because it reveals our sinfulness and leads us to Christ. Have you ever thought about God's law in this way?
4. How have you personally experienced God's Law as useful? How might a healthy appreciation of the law lead you to grace?
5. All humanity can rightly refer to God as "Creator" but not all can call him "Father." How would you explain to a non-Christian what it takes to become a child of God? (See John 1:12 if needed.)
6. "Adoption" (4:5) is a theological term that describes an aspect of God's saving ways toward us in Jesus. Could you try to summarize "adoption" in your own words?

7. What do you think is the meaning and significance behind our being able in Christ to cry out to God, "Abba! Father!" (4:6)? Why is that so special?
8. This ability to cry out to God as Father is one of the greatest rights and privileges of being His adopted son or daughter. Do you find praying in this way comforting, confusing, or something else? Why do you think that is?
9. What doubts do you have about God's fatherly care?
10. How might you--with the Holy Spirit's help--grow in pressing into and experiencing God's fatherly care more often?
11. What situation in your life right now do you need to bring to God and invite him into, so that he can love you through it?
12. In what ways do you think that followers of Jesus, although adopted into God's family and legal heirs with Christ, still tend to live like orphans? Why do you think we do this? How does living like an orphan rather than a son/daughter of God impact our lives as Christians?
13. How could this group encourage and remind one another of our adoption and God's fatherly care for us?